

# **BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY**

**FACULTY OF NATURAL RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS**

**THE CONTRIBUTION OF BANANAS TO HOUSEHOLD INCOME, A  
CASE STUDY OF KAKIRI SUB - COUNTY, WAKISO DISTRICT**

**BY**

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**REG NO: (BU/UG/2015/2121)**



**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULLFILMENT OF THE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE BACHELOR DEGREE IN NATURAL  
RESOURCE ECONOMICS OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY.**

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## DECLARATION

I **SSAAZI DEOGRATIUS** hereby declare that this is my original work and has never been submitted for the award of Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource Economics to any other higher institution of learning.

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## APPROVAL

This is to acknowledge that the work titled 'The Contribution of Bananas to Household Income, a case study of Kakiri Sub-County, Wakiso District' has been done under supervision and is now ready for submission to the Faculty of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences.

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## DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my Guardian **Mr. and Mrs. Ssimbwa** and the entire family members for the parental care, guidance and moral support they rendered to me during the whole period of my degree study at Busitema University.

I also dedicate this project work to my great friends; Steve, Ssebandeke, Ssuubi, Zam, Martin, Anthony, Govine, Barhodha, Happy, Paul, Mariam, Liz, Ambrose, Kellen, Doreen, Sumaiya, Colline, Macris, William to mention but a few, who have been with me in everything.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION .....	i
APPROVAL.....	ii
DEDICATION .....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....	iv
LIST OF TABLES .....	viii
LIST OF FIGURES .....	ix
LIST OF APPENDICES .....	x
DEFINITION OF TERMS.....	xi
ACRONYMS .....	xii
ABSTRACT .....	xiii
1. CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION .....	1
1.1 Background to Banana Cultivation .....	1
1.3 Objectives of the study.....	1
1.4 Significance of the study.....	2
2. CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW .....	3
2.1 Importance of bananas in Uganda.....	3
2.2 Ecological range of banana .....	3
2.2.1 Rainfall requirement.....	3
2.1.3 Altitude and temperature requirements.....	4
2.1.4 Soil requirements .....	4
2.2 Banana morphology .....	4
2.2.1 Height.....	4
2.2.2 Leaves .....	4
2.2.3 Roots .....	4
2.2.4 The fruits .....	5
2.2.5 Bunches.....	5
2.3 Reproduction.....	5
2.3.1 The inflorescence .....	5
2.3.2 Pollination.....	6

2.4 Varieties of banana in Uganda .....	6
2.4.1 Improved varieties of banana in Uganda.....	6
2.4.2 Local varieties of banana in Uganda.....	6
2.5 Management practices of bananas in Uganda.....	7
2.5.1 Land preparation .....	7
2.5.3 Selection of planting materials.....	7
2.5.4 Spacing and pitting.....	7
2.5.5 Planting of bananas .....	8
2.5.6 Fertilizer application .....	8
2.5.7 Pruning of bananas .....	8
2.5.8 Pest and disease control.....	8
2.5.9 Weed control.....	8
2.6 Harvesting and marketing of banana.....	9
3. CHAPTER THREE: STUDY AREA AND METHODOLOGY.....	10
3.1 Description of the study area.....	10
3.2 Bio-physical characteristics of Kakiri Sub-County.....	11
3.2.1 Climate of Wakiso District.....	11
3.2.3 Topography of Kakiri Sub-County .....	11
3.2.4 Geology and edaphic factors.....	11
3.2.5 Demographic characteristics .....	11
3.2.6 Land tenure systems in Kakiri Sub-County .....	12
3.2.7 Economic activities .....	12
3.3 Methodology .....	12
3.3.1 Research design.....	12
3.3.2 Study population.....	13
3.3.3 Sample size.....	13
3.3.4 Sampling procedure.....	13
3.4 Validity and reliability .....	13
3.5 Ethical considerations .....	14
3.6 Data collection.....	14
3.7 Data analysis .....	14
3.7.1 Assumptions of the study .....	14
3.8 Limitations of the study.....	15
3.9 Time frame.....	15

4. CHAPTER FOUR: PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF RESULTS .....	16
4.1 Socio-economic characteristics of respondent .....	16
4.1.1. Sex of the respondents .....	16
4.1.2. Marital status of respondents.....	17
4.1.3. Education level of respondents .....	17
4.1.4 Occupation of respondents .....	17
4.5. Costs incurred by respondents in growing major food crops in the study area.....	20
4.5.2. Cost of maize planting materials .....	22
4.5.2.1. Fertilizer use in maize growing .....	23
4.5.3. Cost of cassava planting materials .....	24
4.5.4. Cost of sweet potatoes planting materials .....	26
4.6. Profit analysis for the major three food crops in the study area.....	28
4.7. Benefits, challenges and solutions for major food crops in the.....	33
4.8. Best food crop in maximizing household income in the study area.....	41
5. CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSIONS AND RECCOMENDATIONS .....	43
5.1. Conclusions of the study .....	43
5.2. Recommendations.....	44
5.3. Areas of Further Study .....	45
REFERENCES.....	46
APPENDICES .....	48



## LIST OF TABLES

Table 4.1: Showing Cost of banana planting materials.....	20
Table 4.2: Showing Fertilizer use in banana growing.....	20
Table 4.3: Showing Pesticides use in banana growing.....	21
Table 4.4: Showing Cost of labour on bananas.....	22
Table 4.5: Benefits from banana growing.....	33
Table 4.6: Challenges faced in banana growing.....	34
Table 4.7: Indicating suggested solutions to banana challenges.....	34
Table 4.8: Showing benefits from maize growing.....	35
Table 4.9: Showing challenges faced in maize growing.....	36
Table 4.10: Suggested solutions to maize challenges.....	36
Table 4.11: Showing benefits from cassava growing.....	37
Table 4.12: Showing challenges faced in cassava growing.....	38
Table 4.13: Suggested solutions to cassava challenges.....	38
Table 4.14: Showing benefits from sweet potatoes.....	39
Table 4.15: Showing challenges faced in sweet potatoes growing.....	40
Table 4.16: Suggested sweet potatoes solutions.....	40

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 3.1 A map showing location of the study area.....	10
Figure 4.1: A pie-chart showing age of respondents.....	16
Figure 4.2: A pie-chart showing major food crops grown in the study area .....	17
Figure 4.3: A pie-chart showing land ownership by the respondents.....	18
Figure 4.4: A bar graph showing land occupied by the major food crops in acres .....	19
Figure 4.5: Profit equation .....	28
Figure 4.6 A bar graph showing profits from bananas (Shs) in the study area .....	29
Figure 4.7: A bar graph showing profits obtained from maize (Shs).....	30
Figure 4.8: A bar graph showing profits obtained from cassava (Shs) .....	31
Figure 4.9: A bar graph showing profits obtained from sweet potatoes (Shs).....	32

## LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Photos of coverage of banana and other major food crops in the study area .....	48
Appendix 2: A Questionnaire for an Assessment Of the contribution of Banana Crop to Household Income in Kakiri Sub-County, Wakiso District .....	49

## DEFINITION OF TERMS

Improved variety	Banana plants which are genetically modified and are just introduced in the area with many varieties.
Local variety	Banana plants which are native to the area with many varieties.
Pitting	The practice of digging holes where banana suckers are planted.
Pruning	The practice in banana growing which involves removal of old, dried and infected banana leaves.
Species	Organisms capable of interbreeding and giving rise to fertile offspring.
Sucker	Banana part which is used as planting material.
Variety	The phenotypic and morphological appearance of banana plants.
Afforestation	The practice of planting trees in an area where they have never been.
Re-afforestation	The practice of planting trees in an area where they have ever been but they were cut for various uses.

## ACRONYMS

%	Percentage
°C	Degrees Centigrade
AFIRD	Agency for Integrated Rural Development
BBW	Banana Bacterial Wilt
CAN	Calcium Ammonia Nitrogen
DAP	Di Ammonium Phosphate
Ha	Hectare
Km	Kilometer
NAADS	National Agriculture Advisory Services
NARO	National Agriculture Research Organization
NPK	Nitrogen Phosphorus Potassium
Shs	Shillings (Ugandan Currency)
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
UBOS	Uganda National Bureau of Statistics
WDC	Wakiso District Council

## ABSTRACT

This study was carried out in Kakiri sub-county, Wakiso district. It was aimed at investigating the contribution of bananas to household income in Kakiri Sub-county, Wakiso district. The specific objectives were; to determine the major three food crops grown alongside bananas in Kakiri Sub-county, to estimate the costs incurred in banana enterprise and other three major food crops in Kakiri Sub-county, to determine profits obtained from bananas and other three major food crops in Kakiri Sub-county and to recommend the best crop among the four major food crops in maximizing household income in Kakiri Sub-county.

Data was collected from a total of 50 respondents using a questionnaire as data collection tool. Interview and observation methods were also used in data collection. Data analysis was done using computer programmes and these were Microsoft Excel, SPSS and Microsoft Word for writing the research report.

Although banana production is tremendously decreasing and food crops like maize and cassava were increasing in terms of production, it proved to be the best food crop in maximizing household income through high profit provision in the study area.

Banana growing in Kakiri sub-county had benefits such as food provision, income generation, source of employment, providing raw materials for industrial use and prestige. The challenges which were faced in banana growing were; pests and diseases, inadequate land, soil exhaustion, poor varieties of planting materials and weather changes such as prolonged drought.

Conclusions were made from the study that 66% of the respondents depended on agriculture, most farmers were reluctant in applying fertilizers and pesticides, and majority of the employees were not permanent and were working for a wage. Recommendations were made that the government should put more emphasis on agriculture; banana growers in the area should acquire private *mailo* land titles and sensitizing farmers on the use of fertilizers, pesticides, improved banana varieties and control measures of Banana Bacterial Wilt (BBW) in order to increase banana output in the study area.

## **1. CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background to Banana Cultivation**

Banana has been an important crop for many years to peasants in Uganda. It is cultivated as a staple food to the Baganda tribe in the Central Region. It is regarded as a cash crop in other regions of the country whose ecological conditions suits its growth and cultivation. It has been sustained by cultural, social and economic values attached to the crop.

Banana growing in Uganda has got various benefits which have sustained its cultivation over the years and these are: Income generation, provision of food, utilization of land resource, collection of revenue, provide building materials such as fibers, creates employment opportunities to the natives involved, and provide raw materials juice and breweries industries.

In the Central Region where Kakiri sub-county is inclusive, banana cultivation is one enterprise which could solely be used to achieve the desired level of a middle income population.

However, the current status for banana growing in this sub-county is tremendously decreasing due to anticipated challenges such as; increased banana pests and diseases, prolonged drought, inadequate improved varieties, increasing human population, land shortage, prolonged drought among others which has led to low banana yield, low income of farmers and low banana supply.

Bananas plays a role in maintaining food supply, as it is a staple food and income generating crop in Kakiri sub-county but their output is decreasing creating a gap in food supply (WDC, 2009)

### **1.2 Problem Statement**

Banana production is reducing and yet output by other food crops is increasing. Banana is the staple food and it plays a key role in maintaining food supply as well as maximizing household income in the study area. Therefore to be in position to maximize its productivity, there is need to establish the profitability levels for banana and other major food crops grown in the sub-county.

### **1.3 Objectives of the study**

#### **General Objective:**

To assess the contribution of bananas to household income in Kakiri sub-county, Wakiso district

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