



**FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL SCIENCES,
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT,
THE FARMERS KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICES
ABOUT TICK CONTROL IN GWERI SUB COUNTY, SOROTI
DISTRICT.**

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(BU/UP/2019/2456)**

This final year project report is submitted to the Department of Animal Production and Management in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Animal production and management of Busitema University

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ABSTRACT

In Uganda, over 75% of the total losses in cattle are through debility, direct mortality, morbidity losses in milk ,hides and beef have been attributed to ticks and TBDs and their control in cattle accounted for 86% of the total animal disease control costs. The most limiting factors to livestock production among the pastoralists and farmers in the entire tropic and the cattle corridor areas have been reported to be ticks, TBDs and other associated effect.

A cross section study was carried out amongst the 80 respondents in Gweri sub-county in soroti district in the four parishes to assess the farmer's knowledge, attitude and practices about tick control. A structured questionnaire was used as a tool to collect data which was analysed by SPSS software using statistical tests such as Chi square and logistic regression and later data presented in tables and graphs.

The results revealed that (75.0%) of the respondents used Ixodicides as a tick control method and least number of respondents (25.0%) used manual removal as a tick control strategy. This study further presented that, level of education and knowledge of Ixodicides were significant to the method of tick control to be used. However, insignificant factors such as sex, animal kept, choice of Ixodicides, period of Ixodicides effect and Place of purchase of Ixodicides had no effect on the method of tick control. I recommend further studies be conducted on the effect of ticks and the losses encountered in their management in the same area of study.

DECLARATION

I, **Okiror Emmanuel** hereby declare that this research is my original work and has never been submitted to any institution for the award of any degree.

Okiror Emmanuel

Signature.....Date.....

.....

APPROVAL

Research Student

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Signature.....

Date.....

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Signature.....

Date.....

DEDICATION

I dedicate this dissertation to the almighty GOD for the sufficient grace in preparation of this work, my parents OKIROR BARNABAS, and ASIO FLORENCE, may the almighty GOD keep blessing them each day that passes.

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LIST OF ABBRIVIATIONS

EBATIC:	Evidence-Based Tick Ixodocides Control
PUS:	Primary sampling unit
TBDs:	Tick-Borne Diseases
RAP:	Restricted Application Protocol
SAPs:	Structural Adjustment Program
SOS:	Stamp out Sleeping Sickness
VRS:	Village registration system
ECF:	East Coast Fever
CE:	Carboxy Erase
LPT:	Larval Packet
LTT:	Larval Tartal Test
AIT:	Adult Immersion Test

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENT	PAGE
ABSTRACT.....	i
DECLARATION.....	ii
APPROVAL.....	iii
DEDICATION.....	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	v
LIST OF ABBRIVIATIONS.....	vi
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	vii
LIST OF FIGURE.....	x
LIST OF TABLES.....	xi
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.0 Background.....	1
1.2. Problem statement.....	2
1.3. General objective.....	3
1.4. Research Questions.....	3
1.5. Significance.....	3
1.7 Scope of the study.....	4
2.0 Introduction.....	6
2.1 Background about ticks.....	6
2.2. Ixodidces Supply in the region.....	6

2.3. Ixodicides Market in the region.....	7
2.4. Factors influencing customer choice of Ixodicides Brand.....	7
2.5 Ixodicides distribution in Gweri Sub – County Soroti District.....	8
3.1 Research design.....	9
3.2 Research approach.....	9
3.3 Description of the geographical area of study.....	9
3.4 Sample size determination.....	10
3.4 Sampling strategies.....	11
3.5 Data collection methods.....	11
3.6 Data quality control.....	11
3.7 Data analysis.....	12
3.7 Data presentation.....	12
3.9 Anticipated problems and limitations.....	12
CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS.....	13
5.1 Introduction.....	13
5.2 Descriptive analysis.....	13
5.3 Farmers Knowledge and Attitude towards tick control.....	18
CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF RESULTS.....	22
5.1Major practices of tick control in Gweri sub-county.....	22
5.2 Farmers knowledge and attitude on tick control.....	23

CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	24
6.1 CONCLUSIONS.....	24
6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS.....	24
REFERENCES.....	x
APPENDICES.....	xiv
Appendix 1, A sample of a structured questionnaire subjected to the respondents.....	xiv
Appendix 2, map of Gweri sub-county showing the area of study.....	xxii

LIST OF FIGURE

Figure 1 knowledge and farmers attitude questions with the response of agree, disagree and no option.....	29
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LIST OF TABLES

The table 1 shows the percentage distribution of various variables in the study.

Table 2, shows bivariate analysis using Chi square.

Table 3, shows multivariate analysis using logistic regression.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION.

1.0 Background.

Approximately 80% of the world's cattle population of 989 million are at risk of ticks and tick borne diseases (TBDs) with associated numerous health and economic effects (Rodríguez *et al.*, 1989). In cattle, ticks transmit wide range of diseases, the most important of which are anaplasmosis, babesiosis, Cowdriosis and theileriosis (Rodríguez *et al.*, 1989). These ticks are not only capable of transmitting infectious agents to livestock but also directly affect the host due to skin irritation from attachment, blood loss, bite wounds and sometimes leading to self-trauma and secondary bacterial infection.

In eastern Africa, several factors encourage persistent infections and carrier states of TBDs in cattle herds, including production systems and management practices, inadequate veterinary services, infrastructure, resources, and bimodal annual rainfall (Byaruhanga, 2017). Inappropriate control of practices against ticks and TBDs affect the patterns of exposure to tick-borne infections in cattle and establishment of immunity at individual or herd levels (Byaruhanga *et al.*, 2015).

In Uganda, over 75% of the total losses in cattle are through debility, direct mortality, morbidity losses in milk, hides and beef have been attributed to ticks and TBDs and their control in cattle accounted for 86% of the total animal disease control costs (Contreras & Kirunda, 2021). Among all livestock species reared in Uganda, cattle (*Bos indicus*) make the largest population and biggest contribution to income and food security in pastoral communities (Contreras & Kirunda, 2021). Synthetic pyrethroids mediated by ester bond hydrolysis of the Ixodidides by a specific CE being members of the carboxy erase (CE) family are closely (Cossío-Bayúgar *et al.*, 2018).

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