

**BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY ARAPAI CAMPUS
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRIBUSINESS AND EXTENSION**

**CONTRIBUTION OF LOCAL SEED BUSINESSES ON IMPROVING SOYBEAN
PRODUCTION IN PAKELE SUB-COUNTY, ADJUMANI EAST CONSTITUENCY.**

BY

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**A SPECIAL PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF
AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL SCIENCES FOR THE PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF
REQUIREMENTS FOR AWARD OF BACHELOR DEGREE IN AGRIBUSINESS
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FEBRUARY 2024

DECLARATION

This study is my original work and has never been submitted for award of any Diploma, Bachelors, Masters or PHD in any University.

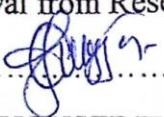
There- fore the work enclosed is of my own findings.

Sign...  Date..11/03/2024

ALIRUKU EMMANUEL.

APPROVAL

This Special Project Report has been submitted to the Department of Agribusiness and Extension with approval from Research Supervisor

Signature..........Date.....22/03/2024.....

Mr. IISA AUGUSTINE

DEDICATION

I dedicate my dissertation to family and friends. A special feeling of gratitude to my brothers Jordan and Harold for their financial supports and words of encouragement.

I also dedicate this dissertation to my lecturers who have supported me throughout the process. I will always appreciate all they have done.

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LISTS OF ABBREVIATIONS

DAO	District Agricultural Officer
DINU	Development Initiative for Northern Uganda
FAAB	Farming as a Business
GAP	Good Agronomic Practices.
LEWA	Livelihood Enhancement for West Nile and Acholi.
LSB	Local Seed Business
LWF	Lutheran World Federation
SAO	Sub-county Agriculture officer
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries.
NURI	Northern Uganda Resilience Initiative.
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences

ABSTARCT

The study was conducted to assess the contribution of local seed business in improving soybean production in Paklele sub-county. Four parishes of Pereci, Meliaderi, Fudaa and Lewa were selected for the study in which data was obtained from 68 soybean farmers with a structure interview using a simple random selection techniques. In data analysis, descriptive statistics were used to for the effect of local seed business on soybean productivity, influence of LSBs on filling the gap in input accessibility and characteristics of farmers who engaged in LSBs in addition to farming by use of SPSS version 20. From the study conducted, it is evident that the majority of respondents were male farmers comprising 72.1% of the total sample size. 44 respondents (64.7% of the total) have been involved in soybean cultivation for 2-5 years with 100% purchases relative to the total purchases made by the respondents. 24 respondents (35.3% of the total) perceived that the quality of soybean seed purchased from LSBs in terms of germination and yield potential level as high, with 32 respondents (47.1% of the total) reporting a moderate increase in an overall productivity of soybean seed purchased from local seed businesses, the majority of respondents attribute improved soybean yield to the use of improved seed varieties (44.3%). All respondents (100%) are aware of local seed businesses, and majority of respondents (77.3%) indicated seeds as a primary agricultural input. 38% of respondents perceived the accessibility of agricultural inputs from LSBs as either “very accessible” or “somewhat accessible” and they highlighted several aspects as their opinion on the contribution of local seed businesses in input accessibility. The majority of the soybean farmers (64.9%) are engaged in other roles within the local seed business which they specified as grain production, the primary motivation towards local seed business, cited by respondents (58.5%) is income generation, 97% of farmers had received training and support from LSBs, which they described as follows, good agronomic practices (GAP), post-harvest management, farming as a business (FAAB) and financial literacy. Local seed businesses play a significant role in supporting farmers by providing access to quality seeds, offering training and support services, and facilitating the distribution of agricultural inputs. Government agencies, agricultural extension services, and non-governmental organizations should promote the adoption of improved seed varieties among farmers through awareness campaigns, training programs, and subsidies.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Agriculture is the backbone of many economies, providing food security, employment, and raw materials for various industries. The productivity of agriculture is influenced by numerous factors, including the quality of seeds used by farmers. The quality of seeds used by farmers plays a crucial role in determining crop yields and overall agricultural productivity (Liu et al., 2022). High-quality seeds possess traits that enable them to resist diseases, adapt to different climatic conditions, and produce higher yields. Additionally, the use of genetically modified seeds has revolutionized agriculture by enhancing crop traits such as pest resistance and drought tolerance, further boosting productivity. When viewing the full range of crops grown by farmers in Uganda, the majority (85-89%) of seed planted by smallholder farmers comes from informal sources, i.e., farmer-saved seed, and seed from neighbors and local markets. Informal sector seed includes seed of both improved varieties, which is recycled seed from an earlier generation of formal sector seed, and local varieties. The remaining 11-15% of seed planted by smallholders is certified seed purchased through the formal sector seed system. Formal seed is typically purchased from seed companies and agro dealers but can be purchased by Governments and institutions and then provided for free or on a subsidized basis, through government schemes and donor-funded projects. Quality declared seed, (QDS) is considered formal seed, as it is a recognized seed class and is derived from a known source of foundation seed (Longley et al., 2021).

The use of quality seeds is fundamental to achieving sustainable agricultural production and enhancing food security. Local seed businesses play a critical role in improving agricultural production and productivity by providing farmers with access to high-quality seeds that are adapted to local conditions. The Local Seed Business project operates between informal and formal sector. It aims at improving their autonomy, their business and marketing skills and their capacity to produce quality seed of local and improved varieties (Van Den Broek, 2011). However, despite their importance, there is a lack of comprehensive research examining the contribution of local seed businesses to agricultural development. This research proposal aims to investigate and analyze the specific contributions of local seed businesses on improving soybean production in Adjumani district.

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