



**BUSITEMA
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**ASSESSMENT OF LIVER FLUKE PREVALENCE IN CATTLE SLAUGHTERED AT
SOROTI MUNICIPAL ABATTOIR**

BY

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DECLARATION

I, Ajilo Jesca, declare that this research proposal has not been submitted to another university or any higher institution of learning for award of any degree.

Signature 

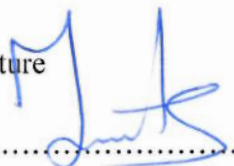
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This dissertation has been supervised and is submitted with the approval of my academic supervisor below.

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DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate this research dissertation to my dear husband Dr. Erechu Sam Richard who always gave me support financially and spiritually and my beloved children; Ivan, Lees, Esther and Venn for their patience and encouragement during my studies for the last three years.

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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted on bovine fascioliasis in Soroti municipal abattoir to assess prevalence carried out from February to April 2013.

Animals slaughtered in a particular day were subjected postmortem inspections, examined by palpating, incising and observing after which the results recorded in a data collection sheet designed to capture all the relevant information pertaining the study as in appendix one.

Out of 121 livers examined an overall prevalence of (69.4%) was found positive for Fascioliasis in the study area. Prevalence of Fascioliasis in female and male animals was 80.0% and 66.7% respectively. Prevalence of fascioliasis varied among age groups, highest prevalence was in animals aged 4-5years (73.3%), >6 years (73.1%), and 2- 3 years (50.0%) .The prevalence of Fascioliasis did not vary significantly among the seven areas. The highest prevalence of Fascioliasis was recorded in Soroti (80.6%) followed by Serere (75.0%), Kaberamaido (62.5%), Katakwi (50.0%), Amuria (0%), Kotido (0%) and Moroto with (0%). It was concluded no significance of prevalence infestation with age and sex, but varied with district of origin.

According to findings for prevalence, farmers who rear cattle should be able to regularly treat their animals with the appropriate ant helmentics and awareness should be created on the prevention and control.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

Cattle play many roles in contributing to the livelihood of the farmers in Uganda for example sold for cash, provide milk and meat for proteins in human diet (Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries, 2002). Uganda Statistical Bulletin, (2000) states that the existing population is about 5.8 million cattle. It represents an important segment of the food animal industry in the Soroti municipality, and the entire Teso region. Beef is generally a good source of animal protein that is widely consumed in the area. Cattle production also provides farmers with important non-monitory benefits including manure and hides and skins (Randolph, 1999). However, the cattle are still kept in extensive system that is affected by severe drought during some parts of the year, especially from December to March. During this period, there is general lack of pastures for animals with the result that most farmers resort to grazing in the swampy areas. Despite grazing in these areas having fresh pastures, animals still continue to lose weight as a result of diarrhea, abdominal pain and splenomegaly may be seen. More severe symptoms may be seen in heavier infection leading to economic losses. Cattle grazed in swampy areas can be associated with so many factors, especially liver fluke infestation (Taweesak, 2002). In Uganda, increased production and productivity of cattle is limited among others by the widespread occurrence of parasites (Brown 1997; Perry and Randolph 1999). This study aims at assessing the prevalence of liver fluke infestations in Soroti municipality abattoir. The study will discuss the major findings and document these findings and make recommendations for farmers, production department and other scholars.

1.2. Problem statement

Infestation with flukes can be a serious problem in cattle; the flukes cause marked economic losses in terms of weight loss, fall in milk production, anemia, chronic diarrhea, and swelling in the mandibular area (George, 2003).

According to an epidemiological survey carried by the (Veterinary Department Soroti., 2009), liver fluke infestation has remained a common problem affecting animals in most areas. The owners of these animals consequently fetch low income, yet they rely on their sales for their

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