



**BUSITEMA
UNIVERSITY**
Pursuing Excellence

**MEDICINAL PLANTS USED IN MANAGING ANIMAL DISEASES AMONG THE PARA-
VETERINARY COMMUNITY IN TESO SUB-REGION.**



BY

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL
SCIENCES IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF REQUIREMENT OF BACHELOR OF ANIMAL
PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY.**

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DECLARATION

I **ALUPO BENA**, declare that the material contained in this dissertation is original and personal effort and I therefore certify that this work has not been forwarded to any University or tertiary institution for the award of the degree

Signature 

Date ^{11th} 08. 2014

APPROVAL


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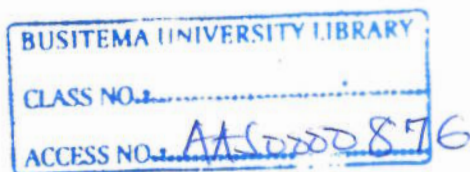
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DEDICATION

This Dissertation is dedicated to my dear parents Rev. Okurut Kajustiano and Mrs. Okurut Manjeri, Uncle Oullo Simon peter, brothers, sisters, friends and all the Para-vets of Teso region.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATION

CBAHWs	Community based animal health workers
E.g.	For example
E.C.F	East coast fever
GOV'T	Government
L.S.D	Lumpy skin disease
NGOs	Non government organizations
PHC	Primary health care
PMA	Plan for modernization of Agriculture
TEPA	Teso Para-vet associations
WHO	World health organization
VET	Veterinary

ABSTRACT

The medicinal plants are important in livestock production because they are used for treating livestock diseases and they provide cheap sources of medicine since imported drugs are expensive. They represent an important health and economic component of biodiversity. A survey was conducted in Teso region, eastern Uganda identifying medicinal plants used in management of livestock diseases by the para-veterinary community. The aim of this research was to botanically identify the medicinal plants and the diseases they treat and also to find out their preparation and application methods.

There were seventy (70) plants that were botanically identified and these plants were distributed to 43 plant families, the plants were identified in their Ateso names and scientific names. The most frequently used plant species reported were belonging to the major families of Meliaceae (28.8%), Euphorbiaceae (19.7%), Solanaceae (13.6%), Caricaceae (16.7%), Mimosaceae (13.6%) and Liliaceae (7.6%). Roots (42.7%) followed by the leaves (34.2%) were the most plant parts used in the study area. The most common diseases identified were tick borne diseases (40%) most especially East Coast Fever and helminthosis (26%). The most used medicinal plant preparation method was cold water extract (43%) and the preparation involved addition of some non-plant ingredients and also mixture of one or more plants to make a single preparation. The most used method of medicinal plant application was oral route (60%) followed by topical route (38%).

The methods that were used for collecting data were structured questionnaires, focused group discussions and a participatory workshop. Fifty three questionnaires were administered to the para-vets and a work shop for para-vets on phytotherapy was held in Soroti district.

The survey indicated that abundant indigenous knowledge on traditional medicine still exists and the use of medicinal plant is still very important to the people of Teso land. Therefore, identified medicinal plants and knowing their way of preparation and application offer major opportunities for commercialization and income generation for the Para-vets, livestock farmers and people in the forestry sector. This calls for validation of the medicinal plants to confirm their efficacy, cultivation and establishment of the botanical gardens.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

The use of medicinal plants all over the globe has supported primary health care and the number of plants existing range from 250 to 500 thousand plant species and around 1-10% are used as food for human and animals (Silver&fernandes, 2010)

World Health Organization estimates that 80% of the populations in developing countries use traditional medicine for their primary healthcare needs though the percentage differs from country to country for example 90% in Ethiopia, 70% in Rwanda and 60% in Uganda (Tabuti *et al*, 2012).

Medicinal plants are used for treating livestock diseases and they provide cheap source of medicine since imported drugs are expensive .They represent an important health and economic component of biodiversity, therefore it is very important to make medicinal plant inventory for conservation and sustainable use. (Sebalidica *et al*, 2011)

The Para-vets who would fill the gap left by inadequate veterinary services also face many challenges yet they can play a very big role in the community and many medicinal plants that would have been used are not documented. Para-vets or village-based livestock service provider (VLSP) are community based health workers (CBAHWs) or private village level worker trained to liaise between livestock owners and veterinarians.(Sastry&Ramalinga,2004) and they carry out activities like AI, basic veterinary services . Para-vets are also defined as people who have a certificate or diploma in livestock development

1.1 BACKGROUND

At least 80% of Uganda's rural population relies on Agriculture with a varied focus on livestock and crop production depending on the Agro-ecological zone. (Nabukenya *et al*, 2014). The most notable programme influencing Agricultural practices in Uganda is Plan for the modernization of Agriculture, PMA. (Bashaasha&Boesses, 2004) and one of the objectives of PMA is to promote sustainable and management of natural resources by developing land use and management policy and promotion of environmentally friendly technologies.

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