
**FACTORS AFFECTING LOCAL CHICKEN PRODUCTION IN KAPUJAN SUB COUNTY,
KATAKWI DISTRICT**



BY

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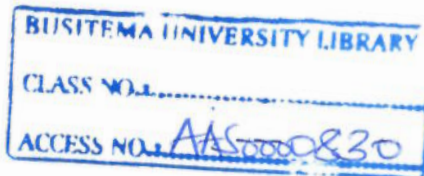
**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL
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DECLARATION

I, **Atiang Vitalis** declare that this research dissertation is my own work and has never been submitted to any university or any other higher institution of learning for any academic a ward

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



APPROVAL

This dissertation has been submitted for examination with the approval of the supervisor:

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this piece of work to my dear parents George William Emugenyait and Dorothy Imoit for the tremendous support which enabled me to go through this course. Not forgetting beloved brothers for the kind support to me during this time of research

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and fisheries
NAGRIC& DB	National Animal Genetic Resources Centre and Data Bank
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
NCD	New Castle Disease
MoLD	Ministry of Livestock Development

ABSTRACT

The study was undertaken to establish the factors affecting local chicken production in Kapujan Sub County, Katakwi district. Data was collected from 110 respondents by use of pretested questionnaires. To analyze collected data, SPSS version 16 software packages were used. The results showed that respondents (50.9%) were between 35-50 years old. The proportion of female respondents was higher than males in the sub county, 64.5% and 35.5% respectively. The main occupation was mainly farming (68.2%). Most respondents had more than 10 years (85.5%) of experience in chicken production. Their literacy level was high, as the majority (72.8%) attained primary and secondary education. Most farmers (75.5%) do not provide separate housing for their chickens. 85.5% of the respondents were feeding their chicken by scavenging with additional supplements whereby 15.5% used bran of cereals, 41.8% kitchen leftovers, 10.9% commercial supplements. 31.8% used cereal grains. the supplements were given irregularly (51.9%). watering of chickens was done by 79% of the respondents. 100% of the farmers reported to have experienced disease outbreak. And many did not often vaccinate their chicken against NCD. 45.5% of respondents left sick birds with the healthy ones while 31.5 attempted to treat by themselves. Provision of affordable vaccines and medicaments (34%), and Quality feeds (23%) were farmer's suggestion to improve local chickens as well as shortage of improved veterinary services. Management practices such as Supplementary feeding, Housing of chicken, and Frequency of vaccination of chicken significantly affected local chicken production in Kapujan Sub County. Training of farmers focusing on disease prevention, improved housing, feeding and watering of chicken, are highly recommended so as to improve production of chicken.

CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The world poultry population has been estimated to be about 16.2 billion, with 71.6 % in developing countries, producing 67, 718,544 metric tons of chicken meat and 57,861,747 metric tons of hen eggs (Guèye 2005). in Ethiopia Poultry population is estimated at 38 million of which 97.8% of the total poultry population comprises indigenous birds while 2.2% are exotic breeds while in Kenya chicken population is estimated at 22 million free-ranging indigenous chickens (MoLD, 2006) The national chicken flock of indigenous chickens for Uganda was estimated to be 32.8 million as of 2008, representing 87.7% of the total chicken flock in Uganda (UBOS, 2009). Regionally, the Eastern Region had the highest number of indigenous chickens estimated to be 10.4 million while the Western Region had the least number of indigenous chickens estimated to be 6.7 million (UBOS, 2009). The indigenous chicken population in Katakwi district was estimated at 285,820 chickens (UBOS, 2009).

The indigenous chicken remain predominant in East African villages despite the introduction of exotic and cross bred types, because farmers have not been able to afford the high input requirement of introduced breeds (Guèye 2005) Although the introduction of high yielding chicken breeds in Africa dates back to the 1950s village chicken comprise from five to fifty local types. In most African countries , the chicken have no regular health control programs, may or may not have shelter and scavenge for most of their nutritional needs(Guèye 2005).

The main concept of the study is that village chickens form the basis for increasing food production and income in the rural communities of Uganda. Management of Local chicken by most farmers is improper for example they perch on trees exposing them to predators, and birds are fed on incorrect feed composition causing deficiency diseases. According to the records in the District Veterinary Officer's office, information on poultry is scarce and as such poultry production in Kapujan Sub County is likely to be suffering from some of the many retrogressive factors that make the industry not realize its full potential. This research would combine technical improvements and socio economic aspects required to achieve increased chicken production and income generation in Kapujan Sub County.

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