



**BUSITEMA
UNIVERSITY**
Pursuing Excellence

**PRODUCTION SYSTEMS AND CONSTRAINTS TO THE PRODUCTION OF
INDIGENOUS CHICKEN IN KAMUDA SUB COUNTY,
SOROTI DISTRICT**



BY

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**A RESEARCH DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF
AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL SCIENCES IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF A BACHELORS DEGREE IN ANIMAL
PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY**

JUNE, 2014

DECLARATION

I Elubu Luke hereby declare that this piece of work is my original work and has never been presented for a degree in this or any other university or institution of higher learning.

This research dissertation is submitted for defense with the approval of the Supervisor.

Signed..... Date

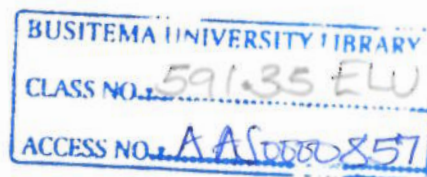
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DEDICATION

I dedicate this piece of work to the almighty God, my parents, brothers, sisters, and friends for their support; physically, emotionally, financially and academically, a support that made it possible for this piece of work to be successfully written.

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My sincere special thanks go to Dr. Mawadri Patrick my research supervisor, under whose supervision I found it possible to complete the research project and able to compose this report.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries
PMA	Plan for Modernization of Agriculture
NAGRIC & DB	National Agricultural Genetic Resources Centre and Data Bank
UCC	Uganda Communications commission
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics

ABSTRACT

This research project was undertaken as a partial requirement for the award of Bachelors of Animal Production and Management of Busitema University.

The research topic was to identify the production systems and constraints to the production of indigenous chicken in Kamuda Sub County, Soroti District. The specific objectives of the research project were; to identify the household characteristics of farmers involved in indigenous chicken production and to identify the production systems used in indigenous chicken production in Kamuda Sub County.

In this study a total of 98 households rearing indigenous chicken in Kamuda Sub County were surveyed and the results revealed that free range or scavenging was the dominant production system, ninety eight (98) of indigenous chicken owners in the study area experienced chicken diseases in their locality. Also it was seen that Majority of members of the households involved in indigenous chicken production were married women between the ages of 18-34 with most of them having undergone primary education.

The production system of scavenging birds in Kamuda Sub County can be enhanced by relatively making simple house construction especially designed for chicks using locally available materials. Administration of regular disease prevention mechanism and appropriate vaccination program to reduce mortality. A little technical support to farmers in form of advisory services would improve production of chickens.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

In Africa, indigenous poultry contributes over 70% of poultry products and 20% of animal protein intake (Kitalyi, 1998). In East Africa over 80% of human population live in rural areas and over 75% of these households keep indigenous chickens and Uganda is not exception to this situation (Ssewanyana *et al.*, 2003).

The poultry industry in Uganda is composed of 21.8 million birds and estimated to consist mainly of chicken comprising of 10 million birds as reported by Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF, 1998). Over 90% of Ugandan chickens are indigenous stock reared under the free range system, producing an average of 50 eggs per hen per year, the eggs are either for hatching chicks or used as table eggs (Olaboro, 1990). The other 10% consist of improved exotic commercial layers and broilers kept under the intensive system of husbandry mainly in urban areas. Intensively managed commercial enterprises comprise of small units of between 50 and 500 birds, the medium sized units of 500-1,000 birds; and few less than 5% of the large scale units of over 1,000 birds (Olaboro, 1990). The indigenous flocks consist of unimproved local chickens, typically 5-20 birds per family (Okot, 1990).

Much of the indigenous chicken production in Teso has been based on traditional knowledge and to some extent, on literature mostly applicable to temperate regions (Oba, 2000). The most common structure of the chicken industry in Kumi district for example is composed of indigenous flocks, which are un-improved and are kept for subsistence hence farmers realising low production performance (Nsubuga, 1985). The cost of production of these birds is low, mainly because they feed on household scrap, kitchen refuse and free range findings (scavenging), though their productivity is generally low. Similar observations have been made on free-range chicken in studies elsewhere (Muchadeyi *et al.*, 2005). Although there are studies conducted in eastern Uganda in Kumi district in particular, on Productivity, management and strategies for better performance (Kugonza *et al.*, 2008). Clear information is lacking regarding

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