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**FACTORS HINDERING INDIGENOUS CHICKEN COMMERCIALIZATION BY RURAL  
HOUSEHOLDS IN KYABIGAMBIRE SUB COUNTY, HOIMA DISTRICT**



**BY**

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MANAGEMENT OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY**

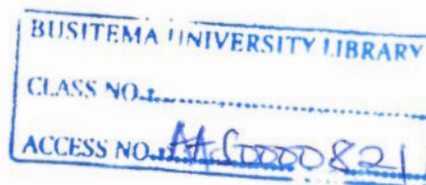
**JUNE 2015**

**DECLARATION**

I, KABALIMU FARIDAH hereby affirm to the best of my understanding that this information is my own work and it has never been submitted to any university or institution for the award of a degree nor other kind.

Signature .....

Date.....



**APPROVAL**

The submission of this dissertation has been by endorsement of my supervisor

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Signature.....

Date.....

## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this piece of work to my beloved parents, brothers, sister and to all my dear friends.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I take this opportunity to extend my earnest gratitude to the Almighty God for the gift of life all this time.

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Table of Contents	
DECLARATION.....	i
APPROVAL.....	ii
DEDICATION.....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGMENT.....	iv
Table of Contents.....	v
LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES.....	vii
LIST OF ABBREVIATION.....	viii
ABSTRACT.....	ix
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 BACKGROUND.....	1
1.2 Problem Statement.....	2
1.3 General Objective.....	2
1.4 Specific Objectives.....	2
1.5 Research Questions.....	2
1.6 Significance.....	3
1.7 Justification.....	3
1.8 Scope.....	3
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW.....	4
2.1 Chicken Production.....	4
2.2 Indigenous Chicken.....	4
2.2.1 Importance of indigenous chicken.....	5
2.2.2 Characterization of indigenous chicken production.....	5
2.3 Commercialization.....	6
2.3.1 Aspect of commercializing indigenous chicken.....	6
2.4 Factors hindering indigenous chickens commercialization.....	7
2.4.1 Social factors.....	7
2.4.2 Management factors.....	8
2.4.3 Economic factors.....	10
CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY.....	12
3.1 Study Area.....	12
3.2 Research Design.....	12

3.3 Study Population.....	12
3.4 Sample size determination .....	12
3.5 Sampling technique and procedure.....	12
3.6 Data collection methods.....	13
3.7 Data collection instruments and procedure.....	13
3.8 Data analysis and presentation.....	13
3.9 Ethical Consideration.....	13
3.10.Environmental Consideration .....	14
CHAPTER FOUR: PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF RESULTS.....	15
4.1 Results on the social factors.....	15
4.1.1 Sex, main occupation and land size ownership.....	15
4.1.2 Income status and education level of respondents .....	16
4.1.3 Number of birds kept.....	16
4.2 Results on Management factors that hinder commercialization of indigenous chickens ....	17
4.2.1 Housing .....	17
4.2.2 Feeding practices.....	17
4.2.3 Providing water to birds .....	19
4.2.4 Prevalence of disease .....	19
4.3 Results on economic factors .....	20
4.3.1 Market price for eggs and live birds and its major determinant.....	20
4.3.2 The regular clients/buyers of eggs and live birds.....	20
4.3.3 Factors affecting marketing of eggs and live birds .....	21
4.4.4 Distance travelled by farmers to the market place .....	22
CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF RESULTS .....	23
CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS .....	27
Conclusions.....	27
Recommendations.....	27
LIST OF REFERENCES.....	28
APPENDICES.....	31
Appendix I: Questionnaire.....	31
Appendix II: Map showing kyabigambire sub-county .....	35

## LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES

Figure 1: Where birds are kept at night.....	17
Figure 2: Reason for not giving supplements.....	18
Figure 3: What is done to sick birds.....	19
Figure 4: Regular clients for eggs and live birds.....	21
Figure 5: Factors affecting marketing of eggs and live birds.....	22
Table 1: Showing sex, main occupation and land size ownership of the respondents.....	15
Table 2: Income and Education level of respondents.....	16
Table 3: Details for providing supplements to the birds' feeding.....	18
Table 4: Providing water to chicken.....	19
Table 5: Major determinants of market price.....	20
Table 6: Shows distance from residence area to market place.....	22



## **LIST OF ABBREVIATION**

MOA- Ministry of Agriculture (Tanzania).

UBOS-Uganda Bureau of Statistics

MAAIF- Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries

UGX-Uganda Shillings

NGOs-Non Government Organizations

NLC- National Livestock Census

E.g. - For example

o

## **ABSTRACT**

This study was conducted in Kyabigambire sub-county, Hoima district, to assess the factors hindering commercialization of indigenous chicken by rural households with peculiar emphasis on identification of the management, social and the economical limiting aspects to commercialization of indigenous chicken. Probability sampling was used to select 100 farmers from 4 parishes then two villages from each parish and 10 households per village.

The study found out that the major management factors hindering commercialization of local chicken include lack of appropriate housing(80%), poor bird health management (88%),inadequate feeding (55.9%) while economic factors include poor transportation means (56%), limited markets for poultry and poultry products(70%), price fluctuations (100%). The major social factors noted were low education levels (45%) and limited land (61.8%).

For commercialization of indigenous chicken to occur, farmers ought to organize themselves into cooperatives or associations to take advantage of discounts when purchasing feed. Administration of regular disease prevention mechanisms and appropriate vaccination program would undoubtedly reduce disease outbreaks and the Ugandan Government needs to resource the commercialization programme, especially in formalizing the market instead of farmers relying on the free market.

## CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 BACKGROUND

Indigenous chickens are found everywhere in most smallholder African households. Generally, they are raised in free-range and/or backyard systems in traditionally extensive husbandry (Mupeta, 2003). The indigenous chickens are reared in small numbers, and their significance is acknowledged by farmers at household level as reported by (Natukunda et al, 2011). Despite the small flocks reared by rural families, the contribution of this traditional poultry sector to most African countries' national egg and meat production is substantial (Sonaiya, 2007). They provide most of the meat and all eggs in villages and 20% of urban and peri-urban demand (Melewas, 1989; Minga et al., 1996). They also provide eggs and meat for farmers' own consumption, are sold to earn money, serve as savings, investment, insurance and serve in traditional medicine (Mlozi, 2003). Thus, in most African urban areas, the indigenous chicken eggs and meat are more expensive than the intensively reared poultry. This is because the former are considered free of antibiotics, hormones and other harmful chemicals (Adebayo & Adeola, 2005).

In other parts of the world, especially in Asia, China, Thailand and Taiwan, the indigenous chicken are not only kept for home consumption but are heavily commercialized to the level of broiler poultry production. For Africa, a continent whose people are among the poorest in the world, majority of the rural farmers have seemed not to practice commercialization of the indigenous chicken (Ouma, 2011). The government of Uganda has made deliberate efforts to commercialize agriculture through market and trade liberalisation. However, this initiative has remained low (Ruhangawebare, 2010). Commercialization would enhance food security and improve household incomes.

There are several exogenous factors that could hinder commercialisation and these include population change, availability of new technologies, infrastructure and market creation, and macroeconomic and trade policies. A study conducted by Martey et al., (2012) analysing the promotion of commercialisation of smallholder farmers in Ghana, found out that output price, farm size, households with access to extension services, distance to market and market information significantly limited the extent of commercialisation.

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