
**FEEDING PRACTICES, PRODUCTIVITY AND AWARENESS IN SMALL-SCALE
DAIRY CATTLE FARMERS IN NANGAKHO TOWN COUNCIL BUDUDA DISTRICT**

BY

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THE AWARD OF A DEGREE OF BACHELOR IN ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND
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DECLARATION

I, **NANGILA WINFRED**, do hereby declare to the Senate of Busitema University faculty of agriculture and animal science that, this dissertation is of my own original work and have neither been submitted nor concurrently being submitted for a higher degree award in any other University.

.....


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..... 27th / Sept / 2017

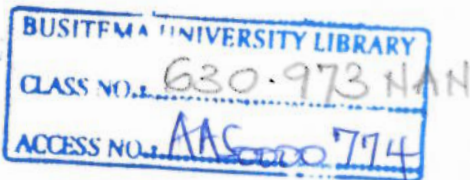
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.....

DATE



DEDICATION

This work is firstly dedicated to my Almighty God for his salvation and abundance blessings provided to me and secondly to my beloved mum and dad for taking care of me during the study period and the entire family for their love and patience for the whole period of my study. To all my friends

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

IFI – Individual Farmer Interview

SSA - Sub Saharan Africa.

GDP-Gross Domestic Product

MAAIF-Ministry of Animal Industry and Fisheries

DDA-Dairy Development Authority

FAO-Food and Agriculture Organization

SPSS- Statistical Package for Social Scientists

CSM-Cotton Seed Meal

AI- Artificial Insemination.

DMI-Dry Matter Intake

DM-Dry Matter

TMR-Total Mixed Ration

NAADS-National Agriculture Advisory Services

NGO-Non-Government Organization

TC– Town Council

tc – Trading Centre

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ABSTRACT

The study was carried out in Nangakho town council Bududa district to investigate the feeding practices, productivity and awareness in small-scale dairy cattle farmers in July 2017. It involved 80 dairy cattle farmers from the 5 wards and random sampling was used. The farmers were interviewed using a well-structured questionnaire. Excel software was used in data analysis. The findings revealed that the major feed resources are pasture grasses (55%) and crop residues (43.75%) supplemented with concentrates, legumes and salts. The main grazing system was zero grazing being practiced by 93.75 of the farmers. The feeds were given in adlib. 92.5% of the farmers did not practice feed preservation. The average milk yield per cow per day was 5-8litres(50%), followed by <5litres(42.5%) and >8litres(7.5%). A few farmers (40%) practiced feed formulation using the locally available resource and purchased ingredients while majority (60%) didn't. The major constraints to fodder production were less land (66.25%),lack of inputs(18.75%), weather changes(13.75%) and lack of labor (1.25%). There was a correlation between frequency of feeding($p=0.0210$), supplementation($p=0.028$) and type of feed($p=0.004$) with milk yield. Therefore, farmers feeding practices i.e. quantity, quality and composition of feeds had an influence on milk yield. I therefore recommend further training of farmers on how to feed a dairy cow, feed preservation, supplementation and watering.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The agricultural sector in Uganda employs 66 percent of the Ugandan population and is key to poverty reduction (Kabwanga and Atila, 2015). Livestock sector continues to grow annually at 3 percent, contributing to nearly 20 percent of the total agricultural GDP. (Kabwanga and Atila, 2015). Uganda has a cattle population of 11.4 million and of these 17.3% is exotic or crosses (UBOS, 2009) and 25% of all households' own cattle (MAAIF 2010). The number of milking cattle is 7.5 million of which 6.3 are indigenous and 1.2 million are exotic and cross breeds (Statistics, 2008).

Dairy is a very important sector which contributes 9% of total agriculture GDP and 3% to the total GDP (FAO, 2014). It is estimated that Uganda produces 1.028 billion liters of milk annually. However, in 2013 Uganda produced 1.9 billion liters of milk.(FAO, 2014). The steady growth is attributed to the favorable macroeconomic environment, policy and institutional reforms as well as specific interventions by government to promote development of the sector.

The dairy industry is estimated to contribute more than 50% of the total output from the livestock subsector, making it the **second major agriculture activity** to the national GDP after cereal products (MAAIF, 2011). Milk is no doubt one of the most important sources of protein in human nutrition in the tropics. (Djoko et al., 2003)

Recent FAO statistics show that, while milking the same number of cows (about 110 million head) the developing countries (mainly located in the tropical zone) produce only 22 % of the whole fresh milk equivalent produced by the developed countries and 18 % of the total world production (461.5 million). In addition, milk production in Asia and to a lesser extent in Africa was reduced from 1986 to 1987 due to drought and the policy measures taken by some countries.

Africa south of the Sahara is expected to register 3.3 % increase in demand for milk and milk products in 2020 (Delgado et al., 2001). The strongest growth in demand for milk and milk products is anticipated to come from developing countries, where it is projected to grow at the rate of 3 percent annually (Desta, 2002) Therefore there is need to improve on productivity of the dairy industry

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