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THE CONTRIBUTION OF SMALL SCALE DAIRY FARMING TO HOUSEHOLD
WELFARE IN BUKASAKYA SUB COUNTY, MBALE DISTRICT

BY

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DECLARATION

I **KATABI ADAM** declare that this dissertation is original and has not been submitted to another university or any other institution of learning for the award of any degree

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APPROVAL

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DEDICATION

To my parents, Mrs. & Mr. Mbogo Mubarak, brothers, sisters also my friends and my classmates
I owe them my greatest gratitude.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND SYMBOLS

| | |
|---------------|---|
| MAAIF | Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries |
| Dr. | Doctor |
| GDP | Growth Domestic Product |
| SSDF | Small Scale Dairy Farmer |
| FAO | Food and Agricultural Organization of the United States |
| SSA | Sub Saharan Africa |
| DDA | Dairy Development Authority |
| CIA | Central Intelligence Agency |
| NAADs | National Agricultural Advisory Services |
| NUSAF | Northern Uganda Social Action Fund |
| NGOs | Non-Government Organisation |
| MDG | Millennium Development Goal |
| ILRI | International Livestock Research Institute |
| % | Percent |
| Km | Kilometer |
| L.C | local council |
| NDP | National Development Plan |
| E | East |
| N | North |
| <i>et.al.</i> | and others |

ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in Bukasakya Sub County, Mbale District to study/analyze the contribution of small scale dairy farming to household welfare. The main focus was on identification of the production level of milk from the dairy cows, amount of income earned by the dairy farmers, items on which income from the dairy enterprise is spent. The Data were collected through face to face interviews and personal visits using questionnaires administered on 65 SSDF who were purposively selected. Information was collected on the contribution of the dairy enterprise to the family income, level of education of the respondents, employment status of respondents and the socio economic contribution of small scale dairy farming to household welfare. Analysis of data was carried out using frequency counts and percentages and presented using tables. About 64.6 percent of the respondents were between the age ranges of 30-50 years, 67.7 percent were male, 80 percent were married, 64.6 percent had attained education from secondary and above, and 73.9 percent had more than three dairy cattle in their herd. Most of the respondents produced between 5-10litres of milk per day with majority earned less than 200,000 Ushs per month from milk sale. Income from the dairy enterprise was used to meet costs of various items including; buying food, medical, school fees, house construction and others. It can therefore be concluded from this study that small-scale dairy farming has a potential of improving the welfare of households. Therefore the researcher recommends that there is need to train the SSDF on the management of dairy cattle/farm as a business enterprises, formation of co-operative societies through which they could establish milk collecting centers which could assist them to earn more income and also women should be empowered to start up small scale dairyenterprises.

CHAPTER ONE:INTRODUCTION

1.0. Background

Livestock production systems are important component in local economies at both the national and farm household level where cattle constitute the main livestock species kept by farmers (Mlambol, *et al*, 1998). In Uganda, livestock production is an integral part of agricultural production system (*Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), 2004*).

The agricultural sector grew by 22.5 percent that is an average of 5.2 percent per annum between 1997/98 and 2001/02 (*National Bureau of Statistics (UNBS); Dairy Development Authority (DDA), 2002*). It contributes over 60percent of total revenue and employs more than 80percent of the total labor force, providing half of total income for the poorest three-quarters of the population, (Goitom, 2009).The livestock sub-sector contributes 17percent to 19percent of the agricultural GDP and 7 to 9percent of the National GDP with dairy industry estimated to contribute 40 to 50percent (kasirye, 2003).

According to the Dairy Development Authority, the cattle population has increased steadily from 5.50 million herds in 1996 to about 7.5million herds in 2012 (Wozemba and Nsanja., 2008) with mixed farming smallholders and pastoralists together owning over 90percent of the national cattle herd (*FAO., 2004*) and 60percent of the households keep mostly (95percent) indigenous cattle while the exotic and crosses accounting for the balance (*NADDS: King., 2002*).The increase in cattle population has been attributed to general improved animal health as result of the nationwide disease control, improved breeding programmes and better management practices.

Milk and milk products in Uganda are mostly from cattle and about 34 per cent of the present cattle population are dairy cattle. Because of the high productivity associated with intensive dairy farming methods such as zero grazing of improved breeds, most farmers have adopted modern farming techniques at various levels of production, (Wozemba and Nsanja 2008).

Within the livestock industry, dairy development continues to receive the greatest attention in the development of the animal industry in Uganda. Consequently, total national milk production has grown from 365 million litres in 1991 to over 900 million by end of 2001 and 1,400million in

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