

**MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AFFECTING GOAT PRODUCTION IN KADUNGULU  
SUB COUNTY, SERERE DISTRICT**



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UNIVERSITY**

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**DECLARATION**

I **OKIRING ISAAC**, declare that this dissertation is original and has not been submitted to another university or any other institution of learning for any academic award.

Signature.....

Date.....19/08/2015.....

**APPROVAL**

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

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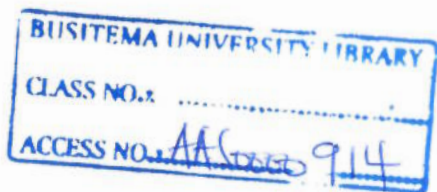
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## **DEDICATION**

This dissertation is dedicated to my beloved parents Mr. Olupot William and Mrs. Tino Betty for their tireless effort towards my education. I further dedicate it to my siblings William, Joshua, Daniel, Stella, Fiona and Rachael.

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

FAO	Food and agriculture organization
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry & Fisheries
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory services
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NUSAF	Northern Uganda Social Action Fund
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics

## ABSTRACT

Goat production has become a common trend in rural communities whereby a number of people rear goats for social and economic reasons. Despite the advantages associated with goat production, effective rural production of goats is greatly challenged by a number of factors. Based on this, the study was conducted to identify management practices limiting effective goat production in Kadungulu Sub County.

Semi structured questionnaires were administered to goat producers in the study area. One hundred ten respondents were randomly selected from the parishes of Kagwara, Kabulabula, Kadungulu and Iruko in Kadungulu Sub County, Serere district. Data was analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 16.

Four point one percent of the respondents dewormed their goats every three months while 41.1%, 39.7% and 15% dewormed goats when sick, yearly, every six months respectively. Most of the respondents (78.2 %) controlled external parasites whenever they saw them on the skin of their goats.

Provision of supplements to goats was only done by 26.4% of the respondents and the main supplements were crop residues (91.8%), and mineral leak (8.2%).

Most of the respondents (76.4%) did not have a breeding buck and resorted to borrowing (51.2%), taking the female to someone's male for breeding (36.6%) and leaving the females to look for the male on their own (12.2%). Housing of goats was mainly on the verandas of residential houses (75.5%).

It was therefore concluded that parasite and disease control in the study area was generally poor. The goats mainly fed on natural pastures with limited supplementation and most of the respondents did not own a breeding buck. Housing of goats was mainly on the verandas of residential houses with irregular cleaning

The findings from this survey call for extension efforts directed at improved management and disease control strategies.

## CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

Goats are the second most important livestock to cattle in socio-economic contribution to the livestock sector of the agriculture GDP of Uganda, accounting for 8% of the total red meat production (Lapenga, Ebong, & Opuda-Asibo, 2009). The biggest growth in goat populations in sub-Saharan Africa is in smallholder mixed farming systems in the highlands of East Africa (C Peacock, 2005). The goats in Uganda, like in several developing countries, are a source of meat, milk and income, hence ensuring nutrition and food security and, they are a source of insurance against vagaries of nature like total crop failure (I. Kosgey, Rowlands, Van Arendonk, & Baker, 2008).

The goat (*capra hircus*) is considered one of the key enterprises in poverty alleviation because of the low start-up capital and maintenance costs, ability to survive on marginal land and crop residues and thus can easily be integrated in the crop-livestock production system under most smallholder systems in Uganda. Moreover, the goat can readily produce usable quantities of milk and meat using family labour especially from women and children for the routine management activities (C Peacock, 2005).

The goat population in Uganda is dominated by indigenous breeds mainly comprised of Kigezi, Mubende and Small East African (SEA) goats. The indigenous goats make up approximately 98% of the total goat population of 12.5 million (MAAIF, 2009). They are characterized by slow growth, small carcass weight and are generally not improved for commercial meat production.

The developing countries of the world like Uganda have a daily animal protein intake that is below the Food and Agriculture Organization standard of 35 g/caput/day (FAO, 1990) a problem occasioned by low production of livestock as population increases. For an improved animal protein intake, there is need for improvement in the production of meat and other protein sources from the livestock industry. Goats offer a great potential in this respect due to their relative ease of breeding, management, ability to subsist on forages, hardiness, adaptation to a wide range of ecological zones and distribution among others.

According to Smith (1996), goat production has become one of the major food producing activities. There is, however, the need for more concrete and empirical information on factors affecting production and management of goats in Kadungulu Sub County. The information

## CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

### 6.1 Conclusion

Parasite and disease control among the respondents in the study area was generally poor. The goats mainly fed on natural pastures with limited supplementation and most of the respondents did not own a breeding buck. Housing of goats was found to be mainly on earthen floor on the verandas of residential houses with irregular cleaning

### 6.2 Recommendation

- The findings from this survey call for extension efforts directed at improved management and disease control strategies.
- Creation of awareness among farmers on goat health management practices and on feeds supplementation strategies especially during the dry season of the year should be due in place.



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