

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRIBUSINESS AND EXTENSION

ASSESSING THE LEVELS OF ADOPTION OF GOOD AGRONOMIC PRACTICES FOR  
PASSION FRUIT PRODUCTION IN UGANDA: CASE STUDY OF NAZIGO SUB COUNTY  
IN KAYUNGA DISTRICT

BY

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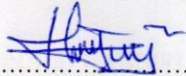
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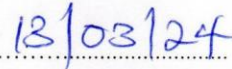
A SPECIAL PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRIBUSINESS AND EXTENSION IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT  
FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF AGRIBUSINESS OF BUSITEMA  
UNIVERSITY

**DECLARATION**

I WANYAMA JOHN BOSCO declare that the work in this research report is my own and it has not been submitted by any other award of degree in any other university.

Signed



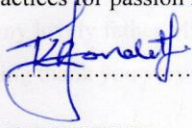


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**APPROVAL**

This is to certify that this research report, which assesses the levels of adoption of good agronomic practices for passion fruit production, has been compiled under my supervision.

Sign .....  .....

Date..... 22/3/2024 .....

RESEARCH SUPERVISOR

DR. RONALD KABBIRI

### **DEDICATION.**

This report is dedicated to my dear supervisor DR.RONALD KABBIRI who has been a constant source of support and encouragement. I am truly thankful for having you in my life and it is also dedicated to my lovely father MR; WANYAMA JOHN BOSCO for supporting me in whatever I have been doing thank you very much.

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## **ABSTRACT.**

Passion fruit (*Passiflora edulis*) cultivation plays a pivotal role in various aspects including economic, medicinal, nutritional, and environmental spheres globally. Originating from Brazil, passion fruit farming has extended to tropical and subtropical regions worldwide. In Uganda, particularly in Nazigo sub-county, Kayunga district, passion fruit farming significantly contributes to the horticultural sector, driving economic growth and providing employment opportunities.(Dias et al., 2022) Despite its potential, passion fruit production faces challenges in Uganda due to inadequate knowledge and suboptimal adoption of good agronomic practices among farmers. This study aims to assess the factors influencing the adoption of good agronomic practices in passion fruit production specifically in Nazigo sub-county, Kayunga district.(Baird et al., 2003). Through surveys and questionnaires administered to passion fruit farmers, the study finds out the social characteristics of passion fruit farmers, evaluates the impact of farmers' education levels and access to extension services on adoption rates. Findings reveal a male-dominated passion fruit farming community in Nazigo sub-county. Most respondents implement essential agronomic practices such as irrigation management, pest and disease control, pruning techniques, and fertilization practices. However, the impact of extension services on the adoption of good agronomic practices appears to be high, with a significant proportion of respondents reporting high or moderate from existing extension programs.(Baird et al., 2003) The study emphasizes the need for strategic investments in education, extension services, and financial support to foster sustainable agricultural development in the passion fruit farming sector. By leveraging youth energy, promoting collaborative partnerships, and embracing research and innovation, Nazigo sub-county can become a model of excellence in passion fruit farming, driving positive change and prosperity for future generations.

## CHAPTER ONE

### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the study

The origin of passion fruits can be traced back to the American continent. Specifically, the yellow passion fruit (*Passiflora edulis Sims*) is native to the American continent and is grown in countries with tropical and subtropical climates.(He et al., 2020). Among these regions, Brazil stands out as the leading producer of passion fruit in the world. The fruit is cultivated mainly in the Northeast, Southeast, and North regions<sup>2</sup> of Brazil. In 2019, Brazil's passion fruit production reached 59,342,000 kg, with an average yield of 14,271 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>. However, there are regional variations in production, with the state of Acre producing 1,096,000 kg, but with an average yield of 8,768 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, which is lower than the national average.(DA SILVA et al., 2020). Passion fruit (*Passiflora edulis*) growing and export is one of the critical contributors to the horticultural sector employing over a million small holder farmers in addition to the other players in the value chain.(Tuhaise et al., 2019). Uganda annually earns over US\$ 200,000 from passion fruit exports (Agribusiness Development Centre., 2014; Uganda Export Promotion Board., 2016). In addition to its commercial importance, species of *Passiflora* also have medicinal, nutritional and ornamental value. The demand and potential of passion fruit production is much higher compared to the current production, and this has been attributed to a number of biotic and management-related factors.(Samuel et al., 2019)

Today Kayunga is the leading producer of high quality vanilla in Uganda and 88% population is engaged in production of cassava, matooke (plantains), pineapples, , maize, millet, watermelon, potatoes and passion fruits.(Whitney et al., 2008). In Uganda, passion fruit farming is an important horticultural activity, and farmers' knowledge and adoption of good agronomic practices play a vital role in enhancing production, yield, and fruit quality. Successful passion fruit farmers in Uganda have implemented various best practices, including proper site selection, land preparation, variety selection, planting, spacing, support structures, irrigation, mulching, fertilization, pruning, and pest and disease control.(Tuhaise et al., 2019) However, there are challenges and constraints that hinder optimal passion fruit production in Uganda. Some of these challenges include limited access to information, inadequate training and extension services, lack of financial resources, pest

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