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Final year project report

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A BANANA JUICE

EXTRACTOR

BY

MATOVU JOSEPH

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Submitted in partial fulfillment for requirements of awarding of the BACHELLOR OF SCIENCE Degree in

AGRICULTURAL MECHANISATION AND IRRIGATIONENGINEERING

DECLARATION

I **Matovu Joseph** the undersigned put it clearly and declare that this report document and its content as a whole have never been presented before by any one for any academic award or media presentation in any institution.

I have compiled it myself while referring to information from relevant sources as acknowledged in the document.

Signature:	Mh
Name:	MARON JOSEPH
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APPROVAL

This is to approve that this project report for design and construction of a banana juice extractor have been validated for further examination by the project supervisors as undersigned here.

Main supervisor:	Mr. Kavuma Chris
Signature:	Que
Date:	12 06 2014

Co-supervisor:	Mr. Ssali Ssajja
Signature:	
Date	

DEDICATION

I dedicate this project report to the almighty lord God of hosts together with Mr. Nsiko Andrew (paternal uncle) for whatever he has done towards my studies and future.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

No man is an island and no one on this earth has ever achieved any of his goals or done anything solely basing on his own effort minus the contribution of the others! So I take this honor to recognize everyone who has contributed his or her efforts towards the execution of 'my final year project'. I respect gratefully whoever encouraged me to go on with the project.

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May the almighty Lord God of hosts reward you all abundantly!

ABSTRACT

Uganda is the second largest producer of bananas after India but most of these bananas are consumed as a staple food and less is diverted into extraction of banana juice. Banana juice can be extracted either manually or chemically however, in Uganda, manual extraction of banana juice by treading on bananas in a trough in the ground or kneading of the bananas in a large pan is accomplished by addition of turpentine or spear grass to the bananas.

This manual extraction of banana juice renders the juice to contamination with germs and also blood possibly form cuttings due to sharp edges of spear grass. This calls for provision of a mechanized way of extracting banana juice.

In this project, a machine was designed to adopt the traditional way of extracting juice from bananas using grass and hands. The designed machine was fabricated to demonstrate and test its performance and efficiency. Although it had been designed to be motorized, it was discovered during fabrication that it can well be manually driven while retaining the same designed parameters.

It was tested on two banana varieties, that is; kayinja and bogoya and two grass varieties, namely spear grass and turpentine grass (etteete). It extracted ½ liters of juice from 3kg of bogoya and 1/4 liters of juice from 3/4 kg of kayinja. Its efficiency on each of the banana variety used was calculated and found to be 67% while the output capacity could not be established as it depends on the driving power and the variety and conditions of bananas to be processed.

While the proto type cost 829,200Shs to fabricate and test, the designed machine was evaluated to cost 2,025,000Shs and the economic analysis for the viability and feasibility of someone investing in this machine was carried out and found to be viable. The overall project incurred an expense of 1,491,700Shs to execute.

Key words: Bananas, banana juice, construction, designing, economic analysis, efficiency, extractor, kneading, prototype, squeezing mechanism, treading, viability.

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ACRONYMS

AISC:	American Institute of Steel Construction
ASD:	Allowable Stress Design
ASME:	American Society of Mechanical Engineers.
EU:	European Union
FAO:	Food and Agricultural Organization.
FHIA:	Fundación Hondureña de Investigación Agrícola,
INIBAP:	International Network for Improvement of Bananas and Plantains.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Uganda is the world's second largest grower of bananas (*musa spp*) after India producing as many as 11.1 million tons of the fruit each year, but the banana market is under-exploited, (*FenBeed, 2013*). Its potential to act as a bastion of food-security and create lucrative openings for ambitious entrepreneurs requires innovation in the way the fruit is produced, marketed and consumed.

Currently, African bananas make up only 4% of the bananas sold in the European Union, the world's largest banana importer, and this figure is set to decrease further as the EU will imminently abandon its reduced import tax for African bananas (*FenBeed, 2013*). Today, banana juice is one of devoured refreshment juice amongst the lower working class of Ugandans in urban areas and majority of rural dwellers of banana producing and consuming areas of Uganda mainly in the central

Enshrined in Ugandan tradition, the banana is boiled and steamed to make matooke, a crucial staple food; it is drunk as juice, which is fermented for beer and refined further to make waragi spirit. The traditional technology of banana juice extraction used in Uganda involves pressing, folding and turning the pulp mash mixed with spear grass or turpentine grass over and over again and it is done from a bucket or source pan by bare hands.

However, the extraction on relatively large scale is done from a pit lined very well with material obtained from the banana pseudo stem and thigh muscles are made use of as bare feet are used to do the extraction in the pit. The role of the added spear grass is to modify the rheological properties of the pulp thus its use is a must if banana pulp mass is to release the juice. Kyamuhangire (1998) observed that the changes that take place in the banana pulp mass that lead to juice release involve breaking and building of new bonds between the different pulp constituents.

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