

**BACTERIAL CONTAMINATION OF BROKEN AND SHELLED EGGS SOLD IN
SOROTI MUNICIPAL, SOROTI DISTRICT**



BY

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**A DESERTATION TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND
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Declaration

I BAHAYA FRANCIS KASIGAIRE declares that this research was carried out by me with the guide of my laboratory supervisor Mr. Muyinda Robert, my Academic supervisor Dr. Ekou Justine and from review of other research journals.

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Dedication

I dedicate this research to myself and, I also dedicate this report to my family and friends

Approval

This research was conducted under the guidance of my supervisor and presented in a defense panel for approval

Approved by

Dr. EKOU JUSTINE

Date

Sign.....

Acknowledgement

I take this opportunity to thank my academic supervisor for the guidance; I also thank Mr. Muyinda Robert for the effort and guidance in my experimental work. My sincere appreciation and thanks goes to all the management staff, lecturers and stake holders of Busitema University Arapai Campus

List of abbreviations

FDA: Food and Drug Authority

CFU: Colony Forming Units

FAO: Food and Agricultural Organization

WHO: World Health Organization

MAAIF: Ministry Of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries

UBOS: Uganda Bureau of Statistics

NAOH: Sodium Hydroxide

HCL: Hydrochloric acid

E.T.C: And others

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Abstract

Eggs are highly demanded due to the fact that eggs are nutritious and readily available as cheap source of proteins. Contamination of table eggs with pathogenic bacteria is a major problem worldwide resulting into foodborne illnesses and intoxication. Although there is knowledge about bacterial contamination of cracked and un-cracked table eggs worldwide, virtually nothing is known about bacterial contamination of cracked and un-cracked table eggs in Soroti municipal. Therefore the aim of this research was to determine the microbial quality of cracked and un-cracked table eggs sold in Soroti municipal. 1ml of egg content sample was serially diluted, 1ml of the 3rd dilution poured on nutrient agar and cultured by incubating at temperatures of 37 ± 2 °c for 24 hrs in hot air oven, bacteria colonies were counted and bacteria concentration calculated, different bacteria colonies were extracted, gram stained and observed under the light microscope using 100x magnification objective for characterization according to cell morphology.

The mean bacterial concentrations (load) were 40177.8 and 61089 colony forming units and colony forming unit per ml of cracked and un-cracked egg content respectively, there was a significant difference in the level of contamination between the cracked and un-cracked table eggs (p-value=0.008). There were six identified bacterial species; salmonellae, pseudomonas, bacillus, coliform, streptococci and staphylococci. All these bacteria were isolated from both cracked and un-cracked table eggs although there was significant difference in species prevalence between cracked and un-cracked egg samples (p-value=0.0024). Cracked table eggs sold in Soroti municipal are more contaminated than un-cracked eggs. Both having pathogenic bacteria such as salmonella and coli-forms; therefore pose a risk of causing foodborne infection and intoxication to the public. The public should boil their eggs before eating them and be educated on the dangers of eating raw and undercooked cracked eggs

Chapter one

Introduction

Eggs are highly demanded due to the fact that eggs are nutritious and readily available cheap source of protein (Miranda et al., 2015), one large egg providing about 6.5g of proteins and they are also a significant source of iron, riboflavin, folate and vitamin B12, D and E (Sophie, Guyot, & Nys, 2019).

China is the largest producer and consumer of poultry eggs in the world, followed by the United States of America and Russia (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [FAO], 2015).

The total poultry population in Uganda was projected to be about 32.6 million birds for 2006-2007 compared to 23.5 million in 2002, with chicken forming the main poultry type and the eastern region comprising of the highest number of poultry birds (Umut, 2017). Recent studies give an estimate of 37.4 million chicken birds in Uganda (FAO, 2012; MAAIF and UBOS, 2009). Egg production in Uganda has increased in the past five years and a rate of 2.8 percent increase from 882.6 million eggs produced in 2016 to 907.1 million in 2017 was noticed (UBOS, 2018).

There is no information on the consumption rate of eggs in Soroti and Uganda, however according to Jaffe, (2016), productivity is always influenced by the demand for a particular product.

Despite the increasing egg production and consumption rates, food-borne diseases remain a challenge globally, with a higher incidence rate in developing countries (Kirk et al., 2015; Grace, 2015). Food-borne diseases are among the widespread public health problems, yet only a small proportion of these illnesses come to the notice of health services, and even fewer are investigated (Venter, 2000). In 2010, the World Health Organization's Food-borne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group estimated 582 million cases of food-borne diseases and 351,000 associated deaths worldwide (Zelalem, 2017). Affecting mostly elderly people, children aged less than 5 years, pregnant women, and individuals with low immune systems (Lund & O'Brien, 2011; WHO, 2019).

Humans acquire and suffer from food-borne illnesses or become intoxicated via the oral route after eating food or drinking water contaminated with food-borne or waterborne causing microbes respectively or their toxins (Moua, 2006). The common bacterial microbes associated

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