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CONTRIBUTION AND CHALLENGES OF AQUACULTURE IN KUJU AND ORUNGO SUB COUNTIESS, AMURIA DISTRICT.

BY

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A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL SCIENCES IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY
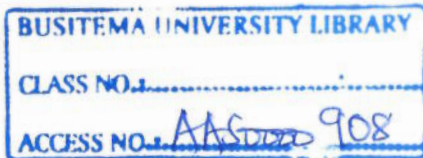
MAY 2015

DECLARATION

I, EKOLU EMMANUEL, declare that this dissertation is original and has not been submitted in part or in whole in regard to any other academic qualification.

Sign.. Date...15.5.17.2015...........

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APPROVAL

This dissertation has been supervised and submitted with approval of;

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DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to my beloved wife and children for their kind support during the period of study.

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May the Almighty God Bless you all

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

DFO:	District Fisheries Officer.
DNC:	District NAADS Coordinator.
DPO:	District Production Officer.
FAO:	Food and Agricultural Organization.
FGD:	Focus Group Discussion.
GDP:	Gross Domestic Product.
GOU:	Government of Uganda.
KIIs:	KeyFormat Interviews.
MAAIF:	Ministry Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries.
NAADS:	National Agricultural Advisory Services.
NUSAF:	Northern Uganda Social Action Fund
UN:	United Nation.
WFP:	Word FoodProgramme.

ABSTRACT

The study was conducted to identify the contributions and challenges of aquaculture in Amuria district. Two sub counties of Orungo and Kuju were selected for the study in which data was obtained from a total of 55 fish farming households. Qualitative data was collected by the use of structured and semi-structured questionnaires which were developed, pre-tested and administered to sampled respondents through individual interviews. Data was analysed by using both Microsoft Excel 2007 and statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) computer software. Descriptive statistics were used to obtain frequencies and percentages which was presented in tables, graphs and pie charts. The results revealed that 72.7% of the fish farmers were males, 89.1% of the household heads were fathers. 54.5% of the respondents had attained secondary level of education. The mean age was 44years which is the active age group. 72.7% of the respondents reported farming as their main occupation.80% of the respondents earned lessthan Shs 1,000,000 from fish proceedings, 95% reported income as the major reason for rearing fish. 45.5% of the respondents' usedfish earnings for the payment of school fees. 54.5% of the respondents stated that there is a decline in fish production in Kuju and Orungo sub counties. 26.7% of the respondents stated predators as a Mixes of both natural and manmade challenges were identified to limit adoption of fish farming and they include; predators, flooding, slow maturing fish, expensive and inaccessible fish feeds and fingerlings and finally limited extension services. Main expenditure from fish earnings were mainly on school fees, purchase of household assets and medical care for the family. Efforts should be made by Ministry of Agriculture animal Industry and Fisheries and the development partners to give a special attention to provision of a hatchery, extension services and provision of overlapping pipes to deal with floods in the district. Policy must be directed to make borrowing capital easier and readily available. This should not be limited to private sector like banks and micro finance institutions but also SACCOs and community savings groups.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0   INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background

According to Agrodok 2008, in the past hundred years, fish catches increased rapidly due to improved technology which resulted to overfishing; hence need to increase fish production. Aquaculture is the fastest growing sector of the world food economy, increasing by more than 10% pr year and currently accounts for more than 30% of all fish consumed. Fish farming has the potential to beccome a sustainable practice that can supplement capture fisheries and give paramount contribution to feeding of the world's fast growing population. (White*et al*, 2004)

In the EAC, fish is considered to be a very important source of protein, however, the gap between supply and demand for fish is widening due to the increasing population. (CTA, Practical guide, 2007)

The global demand for and the price of fish is on the increase and fish exports is second in importance in Uganda. (MAAIF, 2005).Fish Farming (Aquaculture) in Uganda is recorded to have started in 1941 (FAO, 2007). In Uganda, it is estimated that a total of 220,000 tonnes of fish are supplied per year, however, the national average percapita fish consumption is estimated to have declined from about 14kg per person per year before 1990 to between 4-8kg per person per year after 1990 simply due to the exacerbated fish exports of about 100,000 tonnes per year. The production is dominated by small-scale fish farmers. (MAAIF, 2005)

Fish farming in Amuria District is practiced by both individual farmers and Farmer groups. There are estimated 243 fish ponds in the district (Fisheries Department, Amuria, 2013). There are deliberate efforts by government, UN agencies and NGOs to promote fish farming in the district because the district is blessed with a network of rivers, swamps and wells. Currently, (MAIF) has sent Chinese team/experts (2) to establish fish farming status and to find the way forward to develop fish farming in the District. In relation to promote the sector, the fisheries department in the District has been supplying fish fry to individual farmers and groups since 2010. To date 37,500 fingerlings have been distributed and these are expected to yield 45,000 kg

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