CONSTRAINTS TO MILK PRODUCTION IN INTENSIVE CATTLE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS IN BUYOBO SUB COUNTY SIRONKO DISTRICT

BY

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JUNE, 2015

DECLARATION

I, Kimanayi Rogers, declare that this research proposal is as a result of my own efforts and has never been presented for any degree award elsewhere. The material in this report should never be reproduced without the author's permission.

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APPROVAL SHEET

This is to certify that this dissertation is written and organized by **Kimanayi Rogers** under my supervision. It has therefore met the minimum requirements for submission

Supervisor

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Signature..... Date.....

DEDICATION

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This piece of work is dedicated to my mother Aidah Masibo, my daughter mother Masibo Aidah Tracy, siblings and friends. My supervisor Mr. Amosing Joseph, I appreciate his efforts extended to me to make this piece of work a success.

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TABLE OF CONTENT

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4

DECLARATIONI		
APPROVAL SHEET		
DEDICATION		
ACKNO	WLEDGEMENTIV	
TABLE OF CONTENT		
LIST OF TABLES		
LIST OF	FIGURES	
LIST OF	ABBREVIATIONS	
ABSTRACTXII		
CHAPTI	ER ONE	
1.0	INTRODUCTION	
1.1	BACKGROUND	
1.2	PROBLEM STATEMENT	
1.3	GENERAL OBJECTIVE	
1.4	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	
1.5	RESEARCH QUESTIONS	
1.6	SIGNIFICANCE/IMPORTANCE OF THE RESEARCH	
1.7	JUSTIFICATION	
1.8	SCOPE	
1.9	CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK 4	
CHAPT	ER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.0	INTRODUCTION	
2.1.0) MILK	
2.1.1	MILK COMPOSITION	
2.1.2	GLOBAL MILK PRODUCTION QUANTITIES AND ITS IMPORTANCE	

2	2.1.3	MILK PRODUCTION QUANTITIES AND CONTRIBUTION IN EAST AFRICA 5
	2.1.4	MILK PRODUCTION QUANTITIES, CONSUMPTION ITS CONTRIBUTION TO
I	UGA	NDA'S ECONOMY
	2.2.0	CATTLE POPULATIONS
,	2.2.1	PERFORMANCE OF DIFFERENT CATTLE BREEDS OF CATTLE IN TERMS
(OF N	IILK PRODUCTION
4 2	2.2.2	DAIRY SECTOR REFORMS AND TRANSFORMATION IN UGANDA SINCE
	19909	S 7
2	2.2.3	NOTABLE POLICY AND INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES IN THE UGANDAN
1	DAIF	TY SECTOR SINCE THE 1980S
	2.2.4	DAIRY CATTLE PRODUCTION SYSTEMS
	2.2.5	INTENSIVE CATTLE PRODUCTION SYSTEMS
ہ بہ	2.3.0	CONSTRAINTS TO MILK PRODUCTION
	2.3.1	MANAGEMENT PRACTICE CONSTRAINTS
	2,3.2	SOCIAL CONSTRAINTS
	2.3.3	AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICES CONSTRAINTS
CHA	APTE	R THREE: MATERIALS AND METHODS
3.0	D I	NTRODUCTION
3.1	ļĒ	RESEARCH APPROACH
3.2	2 5	STUDY AREA
3.3	3 (DPERATIONAL DESIGN
3.4	4 (DBSERVATIONAL DESIGN
3.5	5 8	SAMPLE DESIGN
	3.5.1	SAMPLE SIZE DETERMINATION
3.6	5 8	STATISTICAL DESIGN
3.3	7 I	DATA ANALYSIS
3.8	8 I	DATA PRESENTATION
3.9	9 I	ETHICAL CONSIDERATION
3.1	10 I	ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION
3.	11 I	PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

ą.

i

.....

 γ

	17
4.1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF SMALLHOLDER DAIRY FARMERS	17
4.2 TO ESTABLISH THE INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL CONSTRAINTS ON MI	LK
PRODUCTION ON CATTLE IN BUYOBO SUB COUNTY	21
4.3 TO FIND OUT THE INFLUENCE OF EXTENSION SERVICES ON MI	LK
PRODUCTION IN BUYOBO SUB COUNTY	33
4.4 TO ESTABLISH THE INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL CONSTRAINTS ON MI	LK
PRODUCTION ON CATTLE IN BUYOBO SUB COUNTY	35
	38
CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF RESULTS	50
CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF RESULTS	42
CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF RESULTS CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	42
CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF RESULTS CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	42 42 43
CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF RESULTS CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	. 42 . 42 . 43 . 44

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents by Occupation
Table 2: Distribution of Respondents by the Number of Lactating cows respondents have and the
amount of milk produced per cow per day
Table 3: Showing the common available feeds for your lactating cows
Table 4: Showing the observation and assessment of Zero grazing unit
Table 5: Showing quantity of milk realized at the time when the udder was infected per cow 30
Table 6: Showing the problems encountered in controlling the above parasites
Table 7: Shows the challenges encountered by cattle farmers when accessing inputs for use on
their farms

۶.,

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Structural Flow of a Conceptual framework of the relationship between Dependent
and independent variables
Figure 2: Distribution of Respondents by Gender
Figure 3: Distribution of Respondents by Age Bracket
Figure 4: Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status
Figure 5: Distribution of Respondents by Status of Household
Figure 6: Distribution of Respondents by Level of the Education
Figure 7: Shows the distribution of cattle breeds in Buyobo Sub County
Figure 8: Showing the Methods of Breeding Practiced by cattle Farmers
Figure 9: Showing the limitations to accessing A.1 services
Figure 10: Showing the proportion of farmers who have a garden of pastures for their animals 23
Figure 11: Showing the number of Acres of pasture gardens owned per farmer
Figure 12: Showing the challenges found in establishing/expanding pastures
Figure 13: Showing whether respondents preserve pastures in silage and or hay
Figure 14: Shows what has hindered respondents from preservation of pastures as silage and or hay
Figure 15: Shows the proportion of farmers who provide supplementary feeds on daily basis to their cows
Figure 16: Showing the type supplementary feeds given to cattle on a daily basis
Figure 17: Shows the limitations to providing supplementary feeds to cows

Figure 18: Showing the number of times farmers provide their cows with water in a day
Figure 19: Shows difficulties encountered by farmers in accessing clean water for their cattle28
Figure 20: Shows the systems of cattle management practiced by farmers in Buyobo
Figure 21: Shows the percentage of farmers that have experienced diseases / conditions associated with udder in their cows
Figure 22: Shows the most common External parasites that affect cattle in Buyobo Sub County31
Figure 23: Shows the common internal parasites affecting cattle in Buyobo
Figure 24: Shows the proportion of farmers who attended advisory training in the past 12 months
Figure 25: Shows the different extension service providers in Buyobo
Figure 26: Shows the different sources of veterinary drugs and other farm inputs
Figure 27: Shows how farmers get veterinary services for their cattle
Figure 28: Shows proportion farmers who carry out dairy activities under group setting, on individual setting only, or both
Figure 29: Showing the problems encountered by dairy farmers groups
Figure 30: Shows the type of labour utilized by farmers on their farms
Figure 31: Showing the challenges encountered when acquiring labour on your farm

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

A.I	Artificial Insemination
BCS	Body condition score
DDA	Dairy Development Authority
EADD	East African Dairy Development
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HPI	Heifer Project International
IDA	International Dairy Federation
IFCN	International Farm Comparison Network
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NAGRC	National Agricultural Genetic Research Centre
NARO	National Agricultural Research Organization
NERRDP	National economic recovery, Rehabilitation and Development programs
NLC	National Livestock Census
NUSAF	Northern Uganda Social Action Fund
РМА	Plan for Modernisation of Agriculture
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
WAC	World Agro-forestry Centre

ABSTRACT

Buyobo has for long had a disparity between the supply and demand of milk. Even at present milk production continues to be less than the market demand. This study aimed at assessing the constraints to low milk production in smallholder intensive cattle management system in Buyobo Sub County. The study objectives included; establish the influence of Social constraints on milk production on cattle in Buyobo Sub County, establishing the influence of management practices on milk production in Buyobo Sub County and finding out the influence of Extension Services on milk production in Buyobo Sub County. The study sampled 102 respondents of which100 dairy farmers plus two (2) key informants who were interviewed on the major constraints of milk production in the area. Study finding indicated that the following management constraints greatly influenced milk production in cattle within Buyobo Sub County are in line to the following; absolute majority (81/102) of smallholder farmers solely used improved bulls for breeding whereas (5/102) farmers used Artificial Insemination. Majority (59%) of the farmers attribute their limitations to using A.I to being expensive and not readily available. Data from household survey indicated that 89% percent of farmers practiced zero grazing, with 73% of farmers admitting not having a garden of pastures for feeding their cattle with absolute majority relying on feeding their dairy cows on natural pastures. It was found out that ticks and Nuisance flies are the most common parasites that affect cows and as such influence milk production in Buyobo Sub County. In management of these parasites, farmers further face challenges such as, lack of money and lack of both acaricides and money, it was found out that the poor housing status of most cows in Buyobo to a greater extent also contribute to low milk yield only 06% of the respondents said has concrete floors and 65% said timbers off (wood). The study shows that majority of the dairy farmers (65%). Majority of dairy farmers of Buyobo being of low educational background (53%) attended primary it is recommended that they need to acquire knowledge and better understanding of livestock management aspects including but not limited to forage/fodder storage and supplementary feeding of dairy cattle using concentrates and other supplements. This will improve milk production so as to generate more food and improved living conditions people for

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter focuses on: Background, General Objective, Specific objectives, Research questions that guided the study, Significance of the study, Justification, Problem statement, Scope and the conceptual frame work which shows the dependent and independent variables.

1.1 BACKGROUND

According to FAO 2015, in the last three decades, intensive world milk production has increased by more than 50 % from 482 million tonnes in 1982 to 754 million tonnes in 2012. India is the world's largest milk producer, with 16 percent of global production, followed by the United States of America, China, Pakistan, and Brazil. The countries with the highest milk deficits are China, Italy, the Russian Federation, Mexico, Algeria and Indonesia. Milk production in Africa is growing more slowly than in other developing regions, because of poverty and in some countries adverse climatic conditions. More than 80 percent of the milk produced in developing countries comes from small-scale intensive dairy producers.

In East Africa milk production in the 1980s and 1990s increased at an annual rate of 4.1% in Kenya and 2.6% in Uganda, with a average milk yields per cow at just 7–8 litres per day in intensive production systems with improved cattle, despite the potential of farmers' breeds to produce at least three times that (World Agro forestry Centre, 2009).

Uganda's economy is predominantly agrarian with agriculture accounting for 23.7% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), 81% of the employed labor force, and 31% of export earnings. Considering that over 85% of Uganda's population lives in rural areas, agriculture is an important sector of the economy, and its performance has direct implications for real GDP growth rate, per capita income, rural employment and incomes, and poverty reduction (Kansiime, 2010).Efforts to improve livestock feeding with great strides in identifying nutritious feed resources for cattle such as pasture grasses and legumes, leguminous shrubs and multi-purpose trees, crop residues and agro-industrial by-products, milk production on dairy farms has remained low, in the range of 2–5 L per cow per day in some parts of the country (Mubiru et al, 2011).

1

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