
PREVALENCE OF *ECHINOCOCCUS GRANULOSUS* AND *CYSTICERCUS TENUICOLLIS* INFECTIONS AMONG THE CATTLE, SHEEP AND GOATS SLAUGHTERED AT KUMI MUNICIPAL ABATTOIR KUMI DISTRICT.



By

LUBEGA MICHEAL

BU/UP/2015/212

Email: lubegaligan@gmail.com

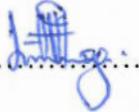
SUPERVISOR'S NAME: DR. OMADANG LEONARD

A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE
AND ANIMAL SCIENCES IN PARTIAL FULLFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FORWARD OF THE A BACHELORS DEGREE IN ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND
MANAGEMENT OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

JULY 2018

DECLARATION

I, Lubega Michael do here by declare that this is my original work and has not been presented for a degree award in any university.

Signature.....

Date. 3rd July 2018.....

This thesis has been submitted for examination with approval of the Academic supervisors

Signature

Date. 02/ August/2018.....

Name: DR. OMADANG LEONARD



DEDICATION

To my parents and guardians' who were able to witness the whole research process success through the financial support and also to friends. To my wonderful daddy; Iga David, mum; Teopista Nampebwa, Jimmy Muwonge and family. Am greatly indebted to you for always encouraging me to persevere.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ who made all things possible .Am so grateful to acknowledge Kumi Municipal Abattoir Staffs and Administration workers for their kind cooperation during this research work. As well like to extend my gratitude to my academic supervisor for the guidance and consultation.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AU/IBAR	African Union-Inter African Bureau for Animal Resources.
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
CE	<i>Cyst cercus echinococcus</i>
MFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
TLU	Total Livestock Unit
OIE	Office International Epizootics
GDP	Growth domestic product
<	Less than
>	Greater than

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Abstract

Echinococcosis or hydatidosis (due to the larval stage of *Echinococcus granulosus*) and cysticercosis (due to the larval stage of *Taenia hydatigena*) pose a significant economic losses due to slaughter condemnation and risk to public health in developing countries such as Uganda, Kumi district in particular where sanitation is poor and people live in close proximity with each other and with animals. This study was conducted to determine the prevalence of *Echinococcus granulosus* cysts and *cysticercus tenuicollis* cysts in cattle, sheep and goats slaughtered at Kumi municipal abattoir, Kumi district, Uganda. A cross-sectional based survey was conducted, from May 2018 to June 2018, where a total of 626 animals comprising of 94 cattle, 396 goats and 163 sheep of both sexes were examined at postmortem for the evidence of larval stages of *Echinococcus granulosus*. (Hydatid cyst) and *T. hydatigena* (*Cysticercus tenuicollis*) through visual inspection, incision and palpation of organs and viscera. The prevalence of *Echinococcus granulosus* was 12.9%, 0.0%, and 1.8% in cattle, goats and sheep, respectively, while that for *cysticercus tenuicollis* were 0.0% in cattle, 31.4% in goats and 25.2% in sheep. The prevalence of the disease was high in the old animals than the young and so in females than males and there was no correlation between the variables age, sex, breed, area of origin with the prevalence of the diseases. The result of this study revealed that cattle and sheep were more affected by *Echinococcus granulosus* cysts while goats were frequently affected by *taenia hydatigena* cysts. *T. hydatigena* (*C. tenuicollis*) cysts were more frequently detected in the omentum than other visceral organs among the animals examined while the *echinococcus granulosus* were more in the liver followed by the lungs and the cysts were mostly calcified. In conclusion, the observed high prevalence of the two metacestodes larval stages leads to high condemnation rates of edible organs and raises significant public health concerns. This call for the need to undertake more extensive epidemiological investigations to determine the causal factors and importance of the diseases in this livestock.

1.0 CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

The livestock sector in Uganda is significant in importance to the agricultural sector and to the wider economy(Agriterra, 2012). It contributes 5 percent to the National growth domestic product and 18 percent to agricultural GDP. The sector has also continued to deliver steady growth about 3 percent per annum - even as the total agricultural sector growth has slowed. (Agriterra,2012).

Over one million goats and sheep are slaughtered and consumed annually for meat(ILRI, 1996) Animal diseases are one of the key problems facing livestock keepers (ILRI, 1996)*Echinococcus granulosus* and *Cysticercus tenuicollis* have been reported to affect livestock and man, they are therefore considered emerging and remerging diseases(Craig *et al.*, 2015) especially among the pastoral communities and their livestock. They cause reduction in productivity in terms of weight loss and milk reduction and considerable losses in carcass quality during slaughter and more so, organ condemnations (Belina *et al.*,2015). *Cystic echinococcosis* sometimes called hydatidosis or hydatid cyst and *cysticercus tenuicollis* (*taenia hydatigena*) are larval stages (metacestodes) of the dog tapeworms *Echinococcus granulosus*and *taenia hydatigena* respectively(Miran *et al.*, 2017).*Echinococcus granulosus* is worldwide in distribution, zoonotic and yet a neglected disease of economic and public health significance (Bizuwork *et al.*,2012).

Domestic, feral or roaming dogs and wild canids such as wolves, jackals and red foxes are the primary definitive hosts for these parasites harboring those (adults) in their gastro-intestinal tracts (GIT). They get infected by ingesting infected organs of herbivores which are the intermediate hosts (Guzel *et al.*, 2008). Livestock and the humans acquire the infection indirectly from grass and water contaminated by the eggs of *E. granulosus* from dog faeces (Craig *et al.*, 2007)The absence of proper meat inspection procedures and the presence of large numbers of stray dog populations contribute significantly to the prevalence of the disease (Otero-Abad & Torgerson, 2013). *Echinococcus granulosus* metacestodes develop majorly in the liver, lungs, heart, and spleen but sometimes in the brain, bone marrow etc (Craig *et al.*, 2007)

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