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**EVALUATION OF THE PERFORMANCE OF BROILERS FED ON DRIED BOVINE
RUMEN CONTENT AND BLOOD MEAL**

BY

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DECLARATION

I, **Mugeni Isaac**, declare that this study is original and has not previously been submitted to another university or higher institution of learning for the award of any degree.

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APPROVAL

This dissertation has been submitted for examination with approval of my supervisor

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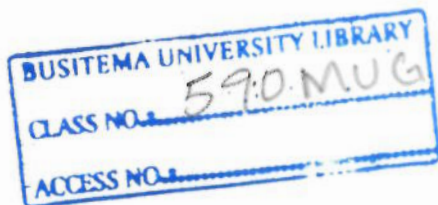
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DEDICATION

To my Uncle Mr. Wanyama Beda and brethren who have tirelessly supported me through my academic journey at Busitema university. I owe them great gratitude.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ANFs	Anti nutritional Factors
Bw	Body weight
°C	Degrees celcius
CP	Crude Protein
EE	Ether Extract
EF	Crude Fiber
EAA	Essential Amino Acids
FAO	Food Agricultural Organization
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
Mm	Millimeters
BDRCBM	Bovine Dried Rumen Content and Blood Meal
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
FCR	Feed Conversion Ratio
SBM	Soya Bean Meal
SPS	Synthetic Protein Constrates

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ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to evaluate the performance of broilers fed on diets containing dried bovine rumen content, blood meal and maize bran mixtures as replacement for commercial broiler feeds. A total of 60 three-week old broiler unsexed chicks were allocated in a completely randomized design and subjected to two dietary treatments for three weeks. The body weight gain, feed conversion ratio and the cost of feeding was determined. It was found that there was no statistical difference in weight gain between the group that was fed on experimental ration and the group that was fed on commercial growers mash, feed conversion ratio among the birds in the experimental group was higher, and also had lower feed intake compared to the group that was fed on the commercial growers mash. The cost of feeding the birds on the experimental ration was lower than the cost of feeding the same number of birds on control ration. However there is need for future research on the effect of DBRCBM on bone formation such that the information may be useful to both local small scale farmers and large scale farmers.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Chicken play a very important role in human nutrition especially those living in low-income countries, such as in Africa and South Asia, who are at a risk of suffering from a number of diseases as a consequence of consuming a poor-quality diet.

Chicken meat is considered to be healthier compared to other meat, because it is low in total fat and in the undesirable trans fats and high in the desirable monounsaturated fats. Folic acid in eggs reduces the incidences of neural tube defects in pregnancies, which are common incidences among the disadvantaged women in low-income countries. Chicken eggs and meat can be enriched with omega-3 fats and selenium, iodine and folic acid, which are often deficient in the diet of people living in developing countries (FAO, 2017).

Poultry production is the fastest growing component of global meat production, with developing and transitional countries assuming a leading role. The poultry sector all over the world is continuously growing due to increasing demand for poultry products like meat and eggs as a result of increase in human population increase in purchasing power and due to urbanization. However poultry production in Africa is lagging behind than that of other continent such us Asia (FAO, 2014).

The world poultry population has been estimated to be about 16.2 billions, 71.6% in developing countries, producing 67,718,544 metric tons of chicken meat and 57,861,747 metric tons of hen eggs per annum (Gueye, 2005). In Africa, village poultry contributes over 70% of poultry products and 20% of animal protein intake. In east Africa, about 80% of these households keep indigenous chicken and Uganda is not exceptional from this situation.

According to the Ugandas' census report 2014 the annual population growth rate was 3.0% therefore due to the increasing population growth and urbanization, the demand for poultry and its products are expected to increase, hence there is need to increase livestock production in order to meet the future demand for livestock products like chicken meat and eggs.

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