

# CONSTRAINTS TO INDIGENOUS CHICKEN PRODUCTION AND MARKETING IN MUKURA SUBCOUNTY, NGORA DISTRICT

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A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND
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A WARD OF THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OFANIMAL PRODUCTION AND
MANAGEMENT OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

## **DECLARATION**

I Omoding Richard hereby declare that this piece of work is my original work and has never
been presented for any academic award in this or any other university or institution of higher
learning.

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## APPROVAL

This research dissertation has been submitted for examination with the approval of the supervisor.

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# **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this piece of work to the almighty God, my parents, brothers, sisters, my lecturers and friends for their support that has made it possible for this piece of work to be successfully written.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

LC Local council

MAAIF Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries

NAGRIC & DB National Agricultural Genetic Resources Centre and Data Bank

NARO National Agricultural Research Organization

NCD Newcastle Disease

NGOS Non Government Organizations

PMA Plan for Modernization of Agriculture

UBOS Uganda Bureau of Statistics

## ABSTRACT

The research was carried out in Mukura Sub-county to assess the constraints to indigenous chicken production and marketing, A total of 100 households rearing local chickens in study area were randomly selected. The results obtained found out that 56% of the respondents were females while the rest males; they were mostly in the age bracket of 21-35 years (56%). Free range (scavenging) system (88%) dominated the production systems; majority of farmers (45%) housed local chicken in separately (in chicken houses). Most farmers left chicken to scavenge for feeds (96%). Disease outbreak (93%) and lack of access to extension services (35%) were common in the area. The farmers sold chicken mostly to middlemen (53%). Chicken diseases (44%) were the major factor limiting the production of local chicken followed by predation (24%), parasites (12%), theft (10%), shortage of feeds (6%) and unreliable information (4%). The marketing of chicken was also affected by low chicken market prices (47%), high cost of transport (28%), low market access (13%), seasonal demand (7%) and lastly low finance and market awareness (5%). The productivity of scavenging birds in Mukura Sub County can be enhanced by providing and implementing appropriate vaccination program to reduce disease outbreak, improving on the housing strategies to reduce on chicken predation, providing technical support to farmers on supplementary feeding and watering. The study suggests that formation of cooperative societies in the area could be a solution to the challenges in the marketing of local chicken.

#### CHAPTER ONE

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

The poultry sector in Uganda comprises of a number of different types of birds including chicken, turkeys, ducks, geese, ostriches and pigeons. Chicken are however the type with the most important economic significance and impact for household livelihoods (Mugarura et al 2013). The poultry industry in Uganda is composed of 21.8 million birds and estimated to consist mainly of chicken comprising of 10 million birds. Over 90% of Ugandan chickens are indigenous stock reared under the free range system, producing an average of 50 eggs per hen per year (Kyarisime et al., 2004).

However, rural poultry does not rate highly in the mainstream national economies because of the lack of measurable indicators of its contribution to macroeconomic indices as Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Economic evaluation of livestock at household and national levels is complicated by the multiple functions of livestock in the economy. Moreover, estimating the value of rural poultry is even more difficult than for other livestock because of the lack of reliable data (Mapiye et al., 2008).

The indigenous flocks consist of unimproved local chickens, typically 5-20 birds per family. The village flocks consist of unimproved local chickens, typically 5-20 birds per family (Kyarisime et al., 2004). The estimated world poultry population is about 16.2 billion, with 71.6 % in developing countries, producing 67, 718,544 metric tons of chicken meat and 57,861,747 metric tons of hen eggs (Ndutha. 2015). The poultry industry in the country is currently composed of almost 40 million birds according to Kirembe et al. (2012), majority (87.7%) of which, are indigenous chickens. The Eastern Region has the highest share of nearly 7.4 million birds (37.3%) (Shinyekwa et al., 2007). Poultry had the largest population constituting 54% of the livestock population (286,230) meaning that almost every household keeps poultry (National Livestock Report, 2008).

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