
**THE PERSISTENT PRODUCTION OF LOW QUALITY MAIZE AMONG FARMERS
IN NAKALAMA SUBCOUNTY- IGANGA DISTRICT**



**A RESEARCH DESSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
AGRIBUSINESS AND EXTENSION IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
OF THE REQUIRMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR
OF AGRIBUSINESS OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY
ARAPAI CAMPUS**

FEBRUARY 2021

DECLARATION

I Senjovu Joseph, hereby declare that this research report is my original work and is neither a duplicate of another research study nor has it ever been submitted to any institution of learning for any award of academic qualification.

Signature Senjovu Joseph Date 18/02/2021

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72%

APPROVAL

This is to certify that **SENJOVU JOSEPH** has written and submitted this research report under my supervision.

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18/02/2021
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(SUPERVISOR)

DEDICATION

I dedicate this report to my beloved parent Mr Kiiza Christopher and Mrs Harriet Wandawa, my sisters and brothers for their financial support rendered to me throughout this course may the almighty God reward them abundantly, I also dedicate this report to my supervisor Mr Buddu Mark who took responsibility to see that I finish this report.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ISO	International standard organization
MT	Metric Ton
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Science
Ha	Hectare
KGS	kilograms.

ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to find out factors for persistent production of low quality maize among farmers in Nakalama sub-county Iganga district. The specific objectives of the study were; to find out farmers' knowledge on the importance of ensuring and maintaining quality of maize, to find out farmers' knowledge on the different post-harvest practices that ensures and maintains quality of maize and to analyze challenges hindering farmers from ensuring and maintaining quality of maize. The study used a research design for this study was descriptive in nature and used quantitative and qualitative data collection approach. The study adopted convenience sampling techniques. The study finding showed that majority of the respondents did not know the importances of producing quality maize, Majority of the respondents said that they didn't have knowledge on proper drying, sorting and cleaning of maize, threshing, proper packaging and proper storage and monitoring and majority of the respondents that said that they face a problem of pests and diseases in maintaining or producing the desired quality of maize. The study concluded that farmers in Nakalama Sub County lacked knowledge on the importance of ensuring and maintaining quality of maize and on the different post-harvest practices that ensure and maintain quality of maize and the major challenge faced by farmers in Nakalama Sub County is pests and diseases which damages the quality of maize. The study recommended that farmers should seek knowledge from skilled personnel in order to ensure quality of maize, the government should increase support and also extend extension services to farmers in order to get knowledge on the quality and maintenance of maize and that the government should also provide support to farmers through providing them with pesticides which can help farmers to fight against pests and diseases of maize hence ensuring quality.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The most produced cereal is maize worldwide. Maize growing started from Mexico by indigenous people around 1000 years ago in the Tehuacán valley in the Mexican high lands. It later spread to the Mexican lowland, other regions of Latin America, the Caribbean, New Mexico and Arizona. According to the current data, about one million tons of maize is grown in more than 170 countries on approximately about eighteen million hectares of land. 90% of the world maize production is yellow maize yet in Africa 90% of the total maize production is white maize. Maize production in Africa is still low because of different factors and this affect production, quantity, quality and marketability of maize hence hindering food security and income of the farmers and traders who export maize to other countries. The average yield of maize worldwide is approximately 5.5 tons/hectare/year and production in Africa stagnates around 2tons/hectare/year. More than 300 million people depend on maize as their main food crop in Africa and South Africa is the leading producer of maize in Africa. Uganda as a country has targeted maize as apriority to increase gross domestic product, employment, expand exports and promote food security among the peoples(Outreach, 2017). International standard organization (ISO) /CD 19942, maize specification is used to regulate quality of maize on international market that helps to reduce poor quality maize on market (Fao et al., 2016).Agriculture in the region traditionally is the most important source of employment providing around 80% of the jobs and in the last decade, the maize industry in East African community has experienced a rapid growth, substantial upgrading of capabilities, and the expansion of cross border trade which has increased farmers income(Daly et al., 2016).The increased production of maize in Uganda aimed at supplying the export market in the region, most especially Kenya and recently southern Sudan though local traders also provide market for maize and this has helped to increase the income of the farmers because of the ready market. Due to quality standards established by East Africa standards 2:2013, many Ugandan traders who export maize have suffered from the effect of low quality maize supplied losing a lot of money. Maize sub-sector is estimated to provide a livelihood for about three million Ugandan farming households, close to 1000 traders and over 20 exporters. Therefore, maize is a growing source of household income and foreign exchange through exports and food(Technologies, 2016). Maize