



**BUSITEMA
UNIVERSITY**
Pursuing Excellence

**FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT
CONSTRAINTS AND CHALLENGES TO APICULTURE
PRODUCTION IN ALEBTONG DISTRICT**

BY

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**A RESEARCH DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF
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DECLARATION

I, **ETUM DENNIS** declare that this dissertation is my original work and has not been submitted to any academic institution for award of any academic qualification.

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

Approved by my Supervisor:

PROFESSOR DEO OLILA

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

DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my beloved family for their support and encouragement as well as to all those who embrace apiculture as an economic activity.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

DPO	District Production Officer
KTB	Kenyan Top Bar
MAAIF	Ministry Of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
UEPB	Uganda Export Promotion Board
MT	Mega ton

ABSTRACT

The main objective of the study was to establish constraints and challenges to apiculture production in Alebtong district. A survey was conducted in two sub-counties of Awei and Aloï town council all of which have a relatively large number of beekeepers. A total of one hundred farmers were purposely and randomly selected to respond to a standard questionnaire. Majority of respondents were male with 81% dominance over the female who make up only 19%. Majority of the respondents were married with 84% while the divorced respondents made the least percentage of 3%. 73% of respondents attained primary level of education followed by 17% in secondary. One percent did not go to school whereas only 9% of apiculture framers in the district attained tertiary education. Majority of apiculture farmers in Alebtong district fall between the age group of 35-50 years followed by adults of more than 50 years of age and 3% are respondents below 18 years. 34% of respondents had taken 4 years and above, 30% have practiced apiculture for 3 years while 9% have done apiculture for less than a year. Majority of farmers in Alebtong district practice fixed system of beekeeping with 88% of respondents while only 12% of respondents do migratory system. 80% of farmers in Alebtong district use traditional beehives, followed by transitional beehives at 20% while modern beehive usage stands at 0%. Traditional beehive type has the highest colonization rate at 96% followed by only 4% for transitional beehive type. Respondents highly practice hygiene husbandry at about 42% followed by record keeping at 16% while disease control and colony management are the least practiced husbandry at 2% and 1% respectively. Limited knowledge is the major constraint and challenge facing apiculture farming in Alebtong district at 70%. This is followed by pest and parasite infestation at 16% and disease outbreak presented as the least constraint and challenge at 1%. Appropriate prevention and control methods of pests and parasites, especially ants and birds, have to be further studied. The methods should be safe and not impose risks to the bees' physiology. Also appropriate coping mechanisms for beekeeping during drought have to be further studied which do not pose health risks to the bees.