

**ADOPTION OF IMPROVED ONION PRODUCTION PACKAGE BY SMALLHOLDER
FARMERS IN GAMOGO SUB-COUNTY KAPCHORWA DISTRICT.**

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**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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DECLARATION

I **WOZEI DAVID**, declare that this research report is original and it has never been presented anywhere in any institution of higher learning for any academic award.

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

APPROVAL

I hereby certify that this research report titled "**adoption of improved onion production package among smallhold farmers in Gamago sub-county kapchorwa district**" is the original and individual work of wozei David. It has been done under my supervision and for the award of the bachelor's degree of Busitema University with my due approval.

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

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this research report to my mother Mrs. Neuber Oliver, father Mr. Muloni Gibuzuyi Godffrey, and brother Buyi Edwin.

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I thank the Almighty God for his protection, love and provision upon my life, for enabling me to finish my course successfully and for seeing me through all the hurdles.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

DRDIP	:	Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project
S/c	:	Sub-county
USAID	:	United States Agency for International Development
USD	:	United States Dollars

ABSTRACT

The study of assessment of the factors influencing the Adoption of improved onion production package in Gamogo sub-county kapchorwa district. The study was guided by specific research objectives which included assesimng the level of onion production, finding out the improved onion production package practiced by farmers, determining the factors for low adoption of improved onion production packages and establishing the strategies for adoption of improved onion production packages in Gamogo Sub-County Kapchorwa District.

The study used cross sectional design and a case study was Gamogo Sub-County Kapchorwa District. To achieve the set objectives the study used purposive sampling and simple random sampling in sample selection. A sample of 63 respondents participated in study. Farmers filled the questionnaires because they were in constant engagement and introduction letter was obtained from the faculty of science and education introducing the researcher to the field of research.

The study revealed information on growing onions on the farm like growing bombay red, red creole, planted malkam brown, produce were increasing in some areas and produce were decreasing in some areas, and the age influences growing of onions. In addition, the findings revealed that proper application of the recommended rate is important to obtain the required yield, as far as fertilizer use is concerned, onion growers in the study areas are aware of the need for using fertilizer in their onion production, and growing onion needs men because they can move to get the information on how to grow it better. The findings revealed that there are advantages of using onion production package, high production per hectare, high price/kg, market demande, shortage of seed, shortage of fertilizers, shortage of labour, storage problems, high costs of inputs. Besides, respondents made use of mass media, having access to credit, having access to market, getting guidance from the extension agent, having training on the improved package, employed on farms which practice them is yet another strategy.

In conclusion, it was found out that farmers receive extension service annually, and plant onions on their farms.

The researcher recommends that extension workers should offer services to farmers at regular interval, government should allocate more funding, and farmers should seriously put in practice what the extension workers tell them.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

The chapter consists of the introduction of the study. The chapter further discusses the statement of the problem, objectives, the justification of the study, scope of the study and conceptual frame work.

1.1 Background to the study.

Onion (*Allium cepa L.*) is one of the most important vegetable crops commercially grown in the world. It probably originated from Central Asia between Turkmenistan and Afghanistan where some of its relatives still grow in the wild. Onion from Central Asia, the supposed onion ancestor had probably migrated to the Near East (Grubben and Denton, 2004; Bagali et al., 2012).

Onion is grown mainly for its bulbs; although the green shoots of salad onion is also an important crop. The onion bulb consists of the swollen bases (sheaths) of bladed leaves surrounding swollen bladeless leaves. Each leaf consists of a blade and sheath; the blade may or may not be distinctive. The sheath develops to encircle the growing point and forms a tube that encloses younger leaves and the shoot apex. Collectively, the grouping of these sheaths comprises the pseudo-stem. It is used primarily as flavorings agents and its distinctive pungency, which is due to the presence of a volatile oil . The mature bulb contains some starch, appreciable quantities of sugars, some protein, and vitamins A, B, and C (Decoteau, 2000).

In Africa, Onion was introduced to the agricultural community of Ethiopia in the early 1970s when foreigners brought it in. Currently, the crop is produced in different countries for local consumption and for export of flowers to European markets. The average annual sale of dry bulb and cut flowers from Ethiopian Fruit enterprise alone was estimated to be about 6.2 millions (Ethiopian fruit and vegetable marketing , 1998). In the year 2001 the crop shared one fourth of the vegetable export quantities and stood third following green beans and peas contributing about 20% of the total vegetable export value which is about 244,000 US dollar of export earnings. In addition to dry bulb, onion cut flower also constitutes significant proportion of foreign export values. In between the years 1999-2001 alone, about 1.75 millions worth cut flower stems were exported.. Onion seed production depends on the cultivar, location, growing season and adequate plant protection measures (Lemma and Shimelis, 2003).

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