HE PREVALENCE OF ANIMAL BRUCELLOSIS IN JUJA

BY

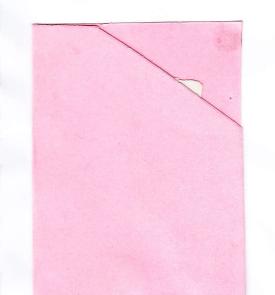
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A REASERACH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND BIOTECHNOLOGY IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT FOR THE REQUIREMENTS AWARD OF HIGHER DIPLOMA IN BIOTECHNOLOGY.

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ABSTRACT

Brucellosis is a cosmopolitan zoonotic disease that afflicts man, his domestic animals and wildlife. The incidence of the disease in humans, and which directly relates to that in animals, is highly dependent on animal husbandry practices, animal population, and animal population density and inter-group interactions. Disease in humans is related to the interaction between humans and animals, living standards, hygiene and food customs. Owing to these reasons, Juja, where this study was undertaken, has the fall potential for high occurrence of brucellosis both in animals and humans. The aim of the project was to detect the presence of brucella organisms in milk. (Prevention of human brucellosis depends on the control of the disease in animals.)

The study was carried out using the milk ring test to detect the presence of Brucella bacteria in milk. Milk samples were obtained from cows in Juja. They were tested using Brucella antigen. A total of 92 samples were collected and there was only one positive reactor and the rest were negative.

A strongly positive reaction was indicated by formation of a dark blue ring above a white milk column.

The test was considered to be negative if the colour of the underlying milk exceeds that of the cream layer.

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The main objective was to detect the presence of antibodies to Brucellae in livestock found in Juja. The specific objectives were to establish whether the sampled animals had had contact with the pathogen.

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