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Genotyping of infectious bronchitis viruses and blood parasites in free ranging and commercial chickens in Uganda

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The poultry sub-sector is crucially important in the context of agricultural growth and improvement of diets of the people in Uganda. The sub-sector is particularly important; in that it is a significant source for the supply of protein and nutrition in households' nutritional intake. It is an attractive economic activity as well, especially to women and poor population. However, the poultry industry faces several challenges among which are diseases. I intend to survey both free ranging and commercial chicken for infectious bronchitis, a production disease, blood parasites and zoonotic pathogens. I intend to evaluate Loop-Mediated Isothermal Amplification LAMP for the diagnosis of some of the zoonotic pathogens. I will also undertake a comparative evaluation of pathogens of Guinea fowl which is a wildlife avian species but is semi domesticated in northern Uganda; these could be a reservoir of pathogens to domestic poultry. Gastrointestinal parasites of the birds will also be analyzed.

Biography

Jesca Nakayima is a PhD graduate from Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan (2014). She is specialized in Molecular Epidemiology. She holds a Master of Wildlife Health & Management (MWHM) and a Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (BVM) from Makerere University, in 2006 and 2002 respectively. She joined National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO)/National Livestock Resources Research Institute (NaLIRRI) in June 2006, where she is working till date. She has worked under the Biotechnology section then later Livestock health Program. She has participated in the surveillance and control of Trypanosomiasis. She has also worked on the molecular epidemiology of zoonoses, protozoan parasites, helminthes, wildlife diseases, tick-borne diseases, viruses, among others.

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