



2017 BHEARD Scholar
Peter Ajak

Profile

Country of Study:	Kenya
University:	University of Nairobi
Department:	Veterinary Medicine
Student Position:	Graduate Research Assistant—MSc.
Home Country:	South Sudan
Home Institution:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Home Position:	Field Monitor
Mentored By:	Mr. Balentino Deng Prof. Wahome

Research Area: *Milk Production in Dairy Cows*

BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE: September 2017

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: BSc. Animal Production, Dr. John Garang Memorial University of Science and Technology

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Peter's interest in milk production in dairy cows and goats is to improve the milk production of the local dairy breeds in South Sudan to alleviate poverty among the small scale farmers; through training, introduction of supplementary feeding of cattle and goats with concentrates, roughages, vitamins and minerals. This will enhance improvement in food security and income among the rural and urban communities of South Sudan.

In South Sudan cattle and goat depend mainly on grazing and browsing grasses and shrubs, which becomes inadequate during the dry season. Water also insufficient during the dry season. Insufficiency of pastures and water does not only lead to poor milk production, but it also leads to death of animals in large numbers.

The research will enable Peter to propose development projects to his employer that will include improvement of livestock production, quantity and quality of products through the establishment of water catchments for livestock, training of farmers, livestock keepers and Community Based Animal Health Workers (CBAHWs) on livestock disease prevention and control.

Provision of water to the livestock will contribute to the reduction of conflict, cattle raiding and child abduction among the Pastoralists of South Sudan because death of their animals during the dry season due inadequate water increased the level of cattle raiding since they raid to substitute the dead animals.

PERSONAL STATEMENT: Peter's first goal is to acquire enough knowledge and skills on Livestock Production Systems. He wants to be proficient in scientific research and give lectures in the Universities as well as to contribute in the formulation of livestock production Policies in South Sudan. Peter also wants to work as a manager with organizations or companies in livestock Programs or Projects in South Sudan.

WHEN I AM NOT WORKING I ENJOY: Peter enjoys reading newspapers and books, football and discussions with colleagues.