

FINAL YEAR PROJECT
THE EFFECT OF AMPHISTOME
PARASITES ON SERUM POTASSIUM
SODIUM, CREATININE AND TOTAL
PROTEIN CONCENTRATION IN
ZIMBABWEAN CATTLE.

This project is submitted in partial
fulfilment of the requirement of the
Bachelor of Applied Sciences
Honours Degree

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APPLIED BIOLOGY & BIOCHEMISTRY

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ABSTRACT.

A study of the effects of the presence or absence of amphistomes in cattle was conducted using equipment from Bulawayo's Mphilo Laboratory on 24 serum samples obtained from slaughtered cattle from CSC- Bulawayo. The study was undertaken to find out if the serum sodium, potassium, creatinine and total protein concentrations in cattle are altered by amphistome infections of the animals. A flame photometer was used for potassium and sodium determination while for creatinine and total protein determinations an autoanalyser and the Biuret method of protein determination were used respectively. The sodium and potassium levels were found unaltered while the creatinine and total protein showed some decrease from the normal values.