



## Prevalence and Associated Risk Factors of Bovine Trypanosomosis in Nono District, West Shewa Zone, Ethiopia

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**Abstract:** Trypanosomosis is a major constraint to livestock production due to the challenge of vector control activities and drug resistance development in Sub-Saharan Africa particularly Ethiopia. The most common trypanosome species that affects cattle in Ethiopia are *T. congolense*, *T. vivax* and *T. brucei*. Therefore, A cross sectional study was conducted from November 2019 to December 2020 to determine the prevalence of bovine trypanosomosis Nono district of Western Shewa zone, Ethiopia. The study district was purposively selected and PAs were randomly selected to take sample for the study. For the prevalence study, dark phase contrast buffy coat examination and Giemsa stained thin blood smears were used and Chi-Square test was used to analysis the results. Out of a total of 384 randomly selected and examined cattle, an overall prevalence of 5.5% was recorded. Highest prevalence was recorded in Nano Halo 8(6.7%) followed by Biftu Jalala 6(5.5%) and Halo Dinki 7(4.5%) peasant associations. This study showed no significant difference ( $P>0.05$ ) in trypanosomiasis infection rate among peasant associations and there was significant association between risk factors like age ( $X^2= 6.97$ ,  $P= 0.008$ ), sex ( $X^2= 5.38$ ,  $P= 0.02$ ), body condition ( $X^2 = 6.09$ ,  $P= 0.048$ ) and PCV values ( $X^2= 18.47$ ,  $P= 0.000$ ) of examined cattle. Out of species of trypanosome identified highest was *T. Congolense* was 13(61.91%), followed by *T. Vivax* was 7(33.33%) and 1(4.76%) were mixed. The present work evidenced that tsetse and trypanosomosis has continued to pose a considerable threat to cattle of the study area warranting an integrated control to safeguard cattle production and productivity.

**Keywords:** Bovine, Western Shewa, Ethiopia, Nono, prevalence, Trypanosomiasis

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.2. Back Ground

Livestock are the main stay of the vast majority of African people. They contribute a large proportion of the continent's gross domestic product and constitute a major source of foreign currency earning for a number of

countries. Ethiopia is one of African countries which has the largest livestock population in Africa and a large part of the agricultural system is not mechanized, so livestock play a crucial role in agricultural production both directly as food sources and as a source of traction power. Despite the large livestock population, Ethiopia fails to optimally utilize this resource due to different constraints such as shortage of nutrition, reproductive insufficiency, management constraints, and animal disease (Tesema and Yitayew, 2015). Among animal diseases, trypanosomiasis is one of the parasitic diseases that hampering livestock development in Ethiopia (Anderson *et al.*, 2011; Amanuel *et al.*, 2015).

Trypanosomosis caused by a protozoan parasite that belongs genus is *Trypanosoma* and is transmitted by tsetse flies (*Glossina* spp) and biting flies like *Stomoxys* and *Tabanus* (Alemayehu *et al.*, 2012). The usual consequence of *Trypanosoma* infection is anemia, loss of body condition, decrease in fertility, and increasing calf mortality (Zubairu *et al.*, 2013, Wanga and Munga, 2011). *Trypanosoma congolense*, *T. vivax*, and *T. brucei* are the most pathogenic *Trypanosoma* species within the country that transmitted by tsetse flies (Magona *et al.*, 2003). Several studies indicated that five *Glossina* species have existed in Ethiopia, however, only four of

them (*G. morsitanssubmorsitans*, *G. pallidipes*, *G. tachinoides*, and *G. fuscipesfuscipes*) are widespread and have the economic importance (Kitila *et al.*, 2017; Meharenet *et al.*, 2020).

Trypanosomiasis affects directly the meat and milk productivity of cattle, increase abortion, and mortality rate (Leta *et al.*, 2016). About 200 million US dollars were lost from the national economy due to the direct and indirect impact of trypanosomosis on agricultural and livestock production (Seyoum *et al.*, 2013). Trypanosomosis decreased the work efficiency of oxen

and hinder the introduction of drought cattle in tsetse-infested areas for crop farming (Siyum *et al.*, 2014). Tsetse-transmitted trypanosomiasis remains one of the major production losses of cattle in Ethiopia (Kitila *et al.*, 2017; Tulu *et al.*, 2018). The magnitude of the problem requires a multidisciplinary approach for effectively promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development strategies (Tulu, 2019).

The principle of prevention and control of trypanosomiasis depends on reducing the contact between cattle and vectors. The control methods of trypanosomiasis mainly include control of tsetse fly numbers, use of a trypanocidal drug, and use of cattle breed that tolerate the disease (Achenef and Bekele, 2013; Bouyer *et al.*, 2014). To effectively control trypanosomiasis, it is important to know the epidemiology of the disease and its vector distribution in the areas (Ebhodaghe *et al.*, 2018).

Currently, trypanosomiasis is found to be one of the factors hampering livestock production and productivity in most settlement areas of western Ethiopia and Trypanosomiasis is also a neglected tropical disease that is the major constraint to agricultural activities and cattle production in the country as a whole and the Nono district in particular. However, a limited study has been done to determine the epidemiology of bovine trypanosomiasis. An understanding of the prevalence of the disease plays crucial for designing appropriate control strategies. Therefore current study was planned and carried out to fill such gaps.

## 1.2. Objectives

- To determine the prevalence and associated risk factors of trypanosomiasis in cattle of Nono district
- To identify trypanosomes species associated with bovine trypanosomiasis in Nono district

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1. Etiology

African animal Trypanosomiasis is caused by *Trypanosoma congolense*, *Trypanosoma vivax*, and *Trypanosoma brucei* species. *Trypanosoma evansi* causes ‘Surra’ in camels (M baya *et al.*, 2010). Biting flies have been reported as the major cause of *Trypanosoma vivax* infection in high land districts bordering Lake Tana (Sinshaw *et al.*, 2006). *Trypanosoma vivax*, *T. congolense*, *T. brucei*, and *T. simia* are the four main species responsible for African trypanosomiasis affecting virtually all domestic mammals while *T. evansi* causes Surra in camels (*Camelus dromedarius*) (M bay *et al.*, 2010). The four species are members of the Salivariagroup of trypanosomes and are transmitted cyclically via the mouth parts of tsetse flies, hence the name salivarian trypanosomes (Abenga, 2014).

### 2.2. Life Cycle

The life cycle of any one species may include more than one of these configurations; Promastigote which is elongated form with ante nuclear (in front of nucleus near the anterior end of the body) kinetoplast; flagellum arising near it and emerging from the anterior end of body e.g. *Leptomonas*; Epimastigote which is elongated form with ajuxta nuclear kinetoplast (between nucleus and anterior end), flagellum arising near it and emerging from the site of the body as a short undulating membrane e.g. Blastocrithidia and some Trypanosoma species; Trypomastigote which is the “true” trypanosomes type; post nuclear kinetoplast; flagellum arising near it to run a long undulating membrane; and Amastigote that is rounded or oval forms devoid of external flagellum e. g. *Leishmania* species (Hunt, 2010). As trypanosomes progress through their life cycle they undergo a series of morphological changes as is typical of trypanosomatids. The life cycle often consists of the trypomastigote form in the vertebrate host and the trypomastigote or promastigote form in the gut of the invertebrate host. Intra cellular life cycle stages are normally found in the amastigote form. The trypomastigote morphology is unique to species in the genus *Trypanosoma* (FAO, 2006).

### 2.3. Epidemiology

#### 2.3.1. Distribution

Trypanosomiasis epidemiology depends on the interaction between the ecological factors i.e. parasite, vector, and host factors. The disease severity depends on the strain and the species of the trypanosomes that has infected the animal. In West Africa, *T. vivax* infection predominates and *T. congolense* poses a chronic disease. While in East and Central Africa most of the infection in Cattle is due to *T. vivax* but with a mild disease as compared to *T. congolense*. The bovine trypanosome species like the *T. congolense*, *T. brucei*, and *T. vivax* are normally associated with the humid and sub-humid areas of Africa (15°N and 25°S), that is inhabited by their intermediate hosts the *Glossina* (Sow, 2013). Transmission of trypanosomiasis mostly depends on the distribution and the capacity of the vector *Glossina* species for transmission. The savannah and riverine are the most are the ones that inhabit the grazing and watering areas. The most important trypanosomes that cause economic losses in livestock are *T. congolense*, *T. vivax*, and *T. brucei* (Sow, 2013).

#### 2.3.2. Mode of Transmission

**Cyclical Transmission:** When a tsetse flies hatches from its pupal case it is free from trypanosomes. Until its first blood meal, it is called a teneral fly. It acquires a trypanosomal infection when feeding on a parasitaemic (having parasites in the circulating blood) mammalian host. The trypanosomes undergo a cycle of development and multiplication in the digestive tract of the fly until the infective Metacyclic trypanosomes are produced; different trypanosome species develop in

different regions of the digestive tract of the fly, and the Met trypanosomes occur either in the biting mouth parts or the salivary glands (Sinshaw *et al.*, 2006). The period from ingesting infected blood to the appearance of these infective forms varies from one to three weeks; once infective Met trypanosomes are present the fly remains infective for the remainder of its life (Shimelis and Melkamu, 2015). During the act of feeding the fly penetrates the skin with its proboscis. By the rupture of small blood vessels a pool of blood is formed in the tissues and the fly injects saliva to prevent coagulation. Infection of the host takes place at this stage, with infective Met acyclic trypanosomes in the saliva (FAO, 2006; Shimelis and Melkamu, 2015).

**Mechanical Transmission:** A biting insect passes the blood forms from an infected animal to another in the course of interrupted feeding. The time between the two feeds is crucial for effective transmission because the trypanosomes die when the bloodies. The importance of this mode of transmission is variable from place to place, depending on the numbers of hosts and biting insects present, and also on the species of trypanosome. A large biting insect such as tabanids carries more blood and is more likely to act as mechanical vectors than for examples tomoses. (Tsetse flies themselves can of course also act as mechanical vectors.) In non-cyclical transmission, trypanosomes can be transmitted in the absence of tsetse flies (*Glossina*). But *Glossina* species are also capable of transmitting mechanically, in these case the fly feeds on more than one animal before repletion and remain infective for only a short time (Levine, 1973), after trypanosomes have been introduced into a herd. Biting flies are capable of transmitting in their mouth parts if they feed on more than one host in a short interval. Trypanosomes are mechanically transmitted by blood sucking flies chiefly *Tabanus striatus*, *Stomox calcitrans*, *Chrysops* species, *Haematobia irritans*, *Lyperosia* species and *Hippoboscidae*. *T. vivax* is commonly spread by this mechanism (Paris *et al.*, 1982; Desquesne, 2004).

### 2.3.3. Risk Factors

**Host Factors:** The effect of infection varies with the host in that most wild animal and some domestic ones establish a balance with the parasite and remain as clinically normal carriers for long periods. Specifically, some breeds of cattle indigenous to Africa can tolerate light to moderate challenge with tsetse flies by limiting the multiplication of trypanosomes in their blood and by apparently warding off the infection, especially *T. vivax* (Aschalew *et al.*, 2015). This phenomenon is called trypanotolerance, it is both genetic and environmental in origin and the level of tolerance varies. Cross breeds of indigenous Taurine and Zebu animals are also more tolerant than pure breed zebu. However, due to the uncertain genetic makeup of animals within these so-called breeds and crossbreeds, the level of trypanotolerance may also vary with individual animals

within a given category and it can be overcome by heavy tsetse challenge, malnutrition, or other stress factors (Loses and Ikede, 2002).

**Environmental Factors:** The density of tsetse population in the area and the level of their contact with the host, will determine the level of infection. Trekking of cattle through tsetse-infested vegetation is a risk nomadic farmer's face from time to time and the risk is even greater where cattle routes converge, for example, at major bridges or watering holes (NTTICC, 2002). Agricultural and industrial developments generally lead to a lowering of tsetse density by destroying its habitat, whereas the establishment of game or forest reserves provides large numbers of preferred hosts or a suitable habitat for tsetse, respectively. Herds located near such reserves are therefore at a higher risk (Aschalew *et al.*, 2015).

**Pathogen Factors:** In cattle, *T. vivax* generally produces a higher level of parasitaemia than other species. And since, its life cycle in the tsetse is also shorter; *T. vivax* is more readily transmitted than the others when animals are newly introduced into a tsetse infested area. Higher parasitaemia also facilitate mechanical transmission. On the other hand, *T. brucei* is rarely detectable by direct examination of cattle blood, even though infection can be confirmed through other diagnostic methods (Aschalew *et al.*, 2015).

### 2.4. Pathogenesis

The precise pathogenesis of trypanosomiasis remains far from clear. Four features: chancre, lymph adenopathy, anemia, and tissue damages dominate the pathology of trypanosomiasis. The trypanosome species affecting man and domestic animals have been sub divided into two groups, the haematinic group (*T. congolense* and *T. vivax*) which remains in the plasma and the tissue invading group (*T. brucei*, *T. evansi*, *T. b. gambiense*, *T. b. rhodesiense* and *T. equiperdum* found in extra and intravascular spaces (Ngure *et al.*, 2008). Because of their presence in the blood, these invading parasites produce numerous changes in the cellular and biochemical constituents of blood (Taiwo *et al.*, 2003).

Meta cyclic trypanosomes are inoculated intra dermally as the fly feeds. They multiply at this site provoking a local skin reaction (chancre), which is most pronounced in a fully susceptible host and may be slight or absent with some strains or species of trypanosomes. Within the chancre, meta cyclic parasites change to trypomastigote form, enter the bloods stream directly or through the lymphatic, where they reproduce asexually by binary fission (Maudlin *et al.*, 2004).

*T. vivax* and *T. brucei* invade tissues and result in tissue damage in several organs and initiate characteristic intermittent parasitaemia. *T. vivax* usually multiplies rapidly in the blood of cattle, sheep and goats, and is evenly dispersed throughout the cardiovascular system, whereas *T. congolense* tends to be aggregated in small blood vessels and capillaries of the heart, brain, and skeletal muscle, and rarely causes heavy parasitaemia in ruminants. *T. brucei* also found extra viscerally, for example in the myocardium, the central nervous system and the reproductive tract (Radostits *et al.*, 2007; Mary and David, 2009).

When an animal is infected with trypanosomes; antibodies against the surface coat are produced (Shimelis and Melkamu, 2015). The parasite releases toxic substance when destroyed within the circulatory system and hence damages the lining of the blood vessels (Abenga, 2014). The ability of *Trypanosoma spp* to change their surface coat antigen continuously leads to exhaustion of the antibody production by the host leading to immunosuppression (Shimelis and Melkamu, 2015). Lymphoid enlargement, and splenomegaly development is associated with plasma cell hyperplasia and hypergamma-globulinaemia, which is primarily due to an increase in IgM (FAO, 2006).

The response of antibodies developed to the glycoprotein coat of the trypanosomes kills the parasite and results in the development of immune complexes (FAO, 2006; Hamilton *et al.*, 2007). Immunologic lesions are significant in trypanosomosis and it has been suggested that many of the lesions (e.g. anemia and glomerulo nephritis) in this disease may be the result of deposition of immune complexes that interfere with, or prevent, normal organ function. Profound immune suppression occurs following infection and this lowers the host's resistance to other infections and thus results in secondary reservoir, able to re infection of the blood stream (Mogk *et al.*, 2014).

Most trypanosomes have to survive within two hosts, mammalian and insect, necessitating adaptation to differing nutritional environments, and remodeling of their surface coat (Gadelha *et al.*, 2011); and must also live within two specialized environments in their mammalian host. In the blood stream and lymphatic system the parasites evade both the acquired and innate immune systems, predominantly by antigenic variation, changing the variant surface glycoprotein (VSG) expressed on their surface to avoid antibody mediated responses (Mansfield *et al.*, 2014). During the second stage of infection, in the CNS, they are more protected from the immune system, and may exist as reservoir, able to re infect the blood stream (Mogk *et al.*, 2014).

## 2.6. Clinical Signs

Trypanosoma infection display typical signs depending on the species and strain of the trypanosome vector and resistance of the affected breed of animal (Teka *et al.*, 2012). Clinical sign includes fever, anemia due to the destruction of blood cell which occurs intravascular in the acute phase and also extra vascular in sub-acute and chronic stages. The anemia is caused by multi factorial factors like by directly inserting hemolytic action by producing potentially hemolytic factors on autolysis (Biryomumaisho and Rwakishaya, 2012), poor body condition, animals imported from infested area with tsetse flies can be sub clinical carriers and may become ill when they are stressed, localized swelling, lymph adenopathy (Wobo *et al.*, 2010), weight loss, dairy animals there is decrease in milk yield, neurological signs are diarrhea, keratitis, lacrimation, loss in appetite, abortion, premature birth, and perinatal losses as its effect in reproduction (CFSPH, 2009).

## 2.7. Diagnosis

Trypanosomosis can be diagnosed based on either detection of the parasite by the light microscope or demonstration of the circulating antibody (serological) in conjunction with clinical observation (Mezene *et al.*, 2014). The stained thin blood smears afford the best means of identifying species of trypanosomes (Efreem *et al.*, 2013).

### 2.7.1. Wet Blood Films

These were made by placing a drop of blood on a clean microscope slide. Using a drop per tip of a drop per, the blood were be spread to about 2mm in diameter on the slide to avoid over flow, then the blood can be covered with a cover-slip (22x22mm). The blood can be viewed microscopically at 40 total magnifications with condenser aperture-phase-contrast or interference contrast. Approximately 50-100 fields were examined. Trypanosomes were recognized by their movement among the red blood cells (RBCs) (OIE, 2013; Zubairu *et al.*, 2013).

### 2.7.2. Thin Blood Smear

Thin blood smears are made by placing a small drop of blood (about 5µl), for example from a micro hematocrit capillary tube, on a clean microscope slide approximately 20mm from one end (allowing for space to apply the thin smear) and spreading with the edge of another slide (Nakayima, 2016). This slide is placed at an angle of approximately 30° to the first slide and drawn back to make contact with the blood droplet. The blood is allowed to run along the edge of the spreader, which is then pushed to the other end of the slide in a fairly rapid but smooth motion (Kemal, 2014). If the correct amount of blood is used, the slide should be covered with a thin film of blood with no surplus before the end of the slide is reached, and the smear should take the shape of a bullet. Ideally, thin films should be prepared so that the RBCs are fairly close to each other

but not overlapping. The slide is dried quickly by waving in the air and protected from dust, flies and other insects (OIE, 2013).

## 2.8. Treatment

Trypanocidal drugs are the most widely applied method that farmers use to treat and prevent trypanosomiasis in sub-Saharan Africa. It has been estimated that about 35 million doses of trypanocides are administered each year to approximately 45-60 million cattle at risk of trypanosomiasis. Trypanocides are popular because farmers can directly treat and, if successful, cure their animals without relying on the efforts of others (Holmes *et al.*, 2004).

Despite livestock keepers' dependence on trypanocides only three compounds namely isometamidium chloride, homidium (bromide and chloride), and diminazene aceturate, are currently available for treating cattle. All these drugs have been on the market for over 40 years and several generic forms of them from a wide range of companies have become available on the African market (Dabo and Maigari, 2017). Isometamidium is principally used as a prophylactic drug and can provide up to 6 months of protection against trypanosomiasis, homidium has limited prophylactic properties, but it is primarily used as a therapeutic agent. Whilst diminazene provides also short-term protection of 2 to 3 weeks, it is mainly used for therapeutic purposes (Onono *et al.*, 2013).

## 2.9. Prevention and Control

The control of trypanosomiasis in enzootic countries involves control of tsetse fly population, prophylactic treatment, and good husbandry of animals at risk and use of trypanotolerant animals. Control of tsetse has been successfully attempted, but reinvasion is frequent if the land is not properly utilized. The earliest methods involved bush clearing and elimination of game animals on which tsetse fly feed. More recent methods involved the use of insecticides applied strategically in the form of ground and aerial spraying over large expanses of land (Boulange *et al.*, 2002).

The sterile insect technique as recently been used in the coast of East Africa including Ethiopia, since females only mate a few times in their life, generally only once, and mating with a sterile male prevents that female from giving birth to any offspring (Maudlin *et al.*, 2004). Other effective methods involve targets impregnated with insecticides and traps that attract and catch tsetse. These are simple and cheap and can be constructed and maintained by local communities. Furthermore, they do not pollute the environment and are suitable for both small- and large-scale fanning (Boulange *et al.*, 2002).

## 2.10. Economic Significance

Tsetse flies infect 10 million square kilometers of Africa involving 37 countries. Hence, nagana is today

the most important disease of livestock in the continent. Since nagana is a wasting disease, affected animals are chronically unproductive in terms of milk, meat, manure and traction and the mortality rate can be high. The disease in Africa costs livestock producers and consumers an estimated US\$1340 million each year. The anticipated losses due to *T. vivax* in South America exceed \$160 million. Furthermore, the disease may impact on various immunization campaigns in endemic areas due to the fact that it can cause immunosuppression (Aschalew *et al.*, 2015).

## 2.11. Zoonotic Importance

The animal pathogens do not infect humans, but animals can serve as reservoirs of *T. brucei rhodesiense* and *T. brucei gambiense*, the causes of human sleeping sickness, which are morphologically indistinguishable from *T. brucei brucei*. Human infections result from tsetse bites, generally in game parks forest reserves and along streams or other rural setting (Aschalew *et al.*, 2015)

# 3. MATERIALS AND METHODS

## 3.1. Study Area

The study was conducted selected peasant associations (PAs) of Nono districts in the South West Shewa Zone of Oromia Region, Ethiopia. The district is situated at about 230 km southwest of Addis Ababa with the altitude range of 1500-1600 meters above sea level bordering the Gibe river system. The district is located at latitude 8° 50'N and longitude 37°45'E. The total area coverage of the district is about 50,000 hectares and the weather condition is characterized by a sub-humid climate and a moderately hot temperature with a mean annual temperature of 20°C. The highest average monthly temperature occurs in January with a mean maximum temperature of 28°C. The lowest monthly temperature occurs in August with an average monthly minimum temperature of 12°C. It receives high and reliable annual rainfall averaging 1100 mm/annum with a low inter-annual variation. The livestock crop (mixed) farming system is the dominant farming system in the area. The livestock population in the study area includes, cattle 230,000, sheep 65,000, goats 36,000 and equine 55,127 are the predominant species in this district. Those animals have been dependent on communal grazing and watering points (NALDFB, 2020).

## 3.2. Study Animal

The study population was cattle of different ages, body condition, and sex kept under extensive management system in selected PA of Nono district. Study units were local cattle breeds with one year age and above included in the samples. A cross-sectional study design was conducted to determine the prevalence and associated risk factors of bovine trypanosomiasis in the Nono district. The study was conducted from November 2019 to April 2020 in the study area. The age

of the cattle was estimated using their dentition as described by Pasquini *et al.* (2003) and information from owners of the cattle. The body condition was scored using the method described by Nicholson and Butterworth (1986).

### 3.3. Sample Size Determination and Sampling strategies

The multistage sampling method was conducted with the district as the highest and individual animals as the lowest sampling stage, peasant association (PA), village, and herd in between two stages. Nono district

$$N = \frac{1.96^2 P_{exp} (1 - P_{exp})}{d^2}$$

Where, N = required sample size, P<sub>exp</sub> = expected prevalence, d = desired absolute precision. The sample size determination was using 95% level of confidence, 50% expected prevalence since there was no previous study conducted in Nono districts, and 0.05 desired absolute precision. Thus, a total of 384 cattle were required for the demonstration of the study.

### 3.4. Study Methodology and Procedures

#### 3.4.1. Buffy Coat Technique

Blood was collected from an ear vein using a heparinized micro hematocrit capillary tube which was sealed. A heparinized capillary tube containing blood was centrifuged for 5 min at 12,000 rpm. After the centrifugation, trypanosomes were usually found in or just above the buffy coat layer. The capillary tube was cut using a diamond-tipped pen 1 mm below the buffy coat to include the uppermost layers of the red blood cells and 3 mm above to include the plasma. The content of the capillary tube was expressed on to slide, homogenized onto a clean glass slide, and covered with a cover slip. The slide was examined under a 40X objective and 10X eyepieces for the movement of the parasite (Thrusfield, 2005).

#### 3.4.2. Thin Blood Smear

The trypanosome species were identified using Giemsa-stained thin blood films. A small drop of blood from a micro hematocrit capillary tube to the slide was applied to a clean slide and spread by using another clean slide at an angle of 45°, air-dried and fixed for 2 min in methyl alcohol, then immersed in Giemsa stain (1:10 solution) for 50 min. Drain and wash off the excess stain using distilled water, allowed to dry by standing upright on the rock and examined under the microscope with oil immersion objective lens. This technique is the most sensitive of the parasitological tests for the detection of *T. vivax* and *T. Congolese* (Nakayima, 2016).

Thin blood smears was made by placing a small drop of blood (about 5µl), for example from a micro hematocrit capillary tube, on a clean microscope slide approximately 20 mm from one end (allowing for space to apply the thin smear) and spreading with the edge of

was selected purposively based on number of cattle and infrastructure. From a total of 33 PAs in the Nono district, three PAs were selected by the lottery method, namely, Nano Halo, Halo Dinki, and BiftuJalala. The sampling frames of the individual cattle were obtained from each respective village. A simple random sampling method was conducted to sample individual cattle from each herd. The sample sizes selected from each herd could vary based on the number of animals in each herd. The sample size was determined according to the formula given by Thrusfield (2005).

another slide (Nakayima, 2016). This slide is placed at an angle of approximately 30° to the first slide and drawn back to make contact with the blood droplet. The blood is allowed to run along the edge of the spreader, which is then pushed to the other end of the slide in a fairly rapid but smooth motion (Kemal, 2014). If the correct amount of blood is used, the slide should be covered with a thin film of blood with no surplus before the end of the slide is reached, and the smear should take the shape of a bullet. Ideally, thin films should be prepared so that the RBCs are fairly close to each other but not over lapping. The slide is dried quickly by waving in the air and protected from dust, flies and other insects (OIE, 2013).

The slide is fixed for 3minutes in methanol, and stained as for thick blood smears. After staining, the slide is washed gently under tap water and allowed to dry (Dabo and Maigari, 2017). A variation of this method is to fix in methanol for 2minutes, apply May-Grünwaldstain for 2 minutes, then add an equal volume of buffered water, PH 7.2, and leave for a further 8 minutes and drain off. Approximately 50–100 fields of the stained thin blood smear are examined, with a ×100 oil immersion objective lens, before the specimen is considered to be negative. Even after a trypanosome has been detected, approximately 20 extra fields are investigated to determine if more than one species is present (Nakayima, 2016). The sharp extremity of the smear must be extensively explored as, because of their capillary properties, trypanosomes may be concentrated at this place (especially true for large species like *T. brucei* and *T. vivax*) (OIE, 2013; Jamonneau *et al.*, 2015).

#### 2.4.3. Measuring of Packed Cell Volume (PCV)

Blood samples were obtained by puncturing the marginal ear vein with a lancet and collected directly into a capillary tube. The capillary tubes were placed in a micro hematocrit centrifuge with its sealed end outermost. The tube was loaded symmetrically to ensure good balance. After screwing the rotary cover and closing the centrifuge lid, the specimens were allowed to centrifuge at 12,000 rpm for 5 min. Tubes were then placed in hematocrit and the readings were

expressed as a percentage of packed red cells to the total volume of whole blood. Animals with PCV < 24% were considered as anemic (Van den Bossche *et al.*, 2000).

### 3.5. Data Analysis

Data recorded during the study were stored in Microsoft Excel® window 2010. The prevalence of the parasite was computed by dividing the number of positive samples by total samples. Chi-square test was used to test the association between the prevalence of trypanosomosis and its associated risk factors such as PAs, age, body condition, sex, anemic status of the studied animals and PCV values.

## 4. RESULTS

### 4.1. Overall Prevalence of Trypanosomosis

Out of 384 cattle of examined in Nono District an overall prevalence of 21(5.5%) was recorded. In this area highest prevalence was recorded in Nano Halo

8(6.7%) followed by Biftu Jalala 6(5.5%) and Halo Dinki 7(4.5%) peasant associations which have no statistically significant association observed between study PAs( $X^2 = 0.59$ ,  $P = 0.746$ ) (Table 1). In this area higher prevalence was detected in young age group 13(9.6%) than in adult 8(3.2%) which has statistically significance difference ( $X^2 = 6.97$ ,  $P = 0.008$ ) (Table 2); higher prevalence was recorded in male 15(8.3%) than in female 6(2.94%) which has statistically significance difference ( $X^2 = 5.38$ ,  $P = 0.02$ ) (Table 3) ; highest prevalence was recorded in poor 13(9.2%) followed by medium 7(3.3%) and good 1(3.1%) body condition which has statistically significant association observed between study PAs( $X^2 = 6.09$ ,  $P = 0.048$ ) (Table 4), higher prevalence was recorded in anemic 18(11.5%) than in non-anemic (normal) 3(1.3%) which has statistically significance difference ( $X^2 = 18.47$ ,  $P = 0.000$ ) (Table 5) and out of 21 species of trypanosome identified *T. Congolense* was 13( 61.91%) , *T. Vivax* was 7(33.33%) and 1(4.76%) were mixed (Table 6).

**Table 1:** Prevalence of Trypanosomosis based on Origin

Variables	Categories	No Sampled	Positive	Prevalence%	X <sup>2</sup>	P – Value
Origin	Nano Halo	120	8	6.7	0.59	0.746
	Halo Dinki	154	7	4.5		
	BiftuJalala	110	6	5.5		
Total		384	21	5.5		

**Table 2:** Prevalence of Trypanosomosis based on Age

Variables	Categories	No Sampled	No Positive	Prevalence %	X <sup>2</sup>	P – Value
Age	Young	135	13	9.6	6.97	0.008
	Adult	249	8	3.2		
Total		384	21	5.5		

**Table 3:** Prevalence of Trypanosomiasis based on Sex

Variables	categories	No Sampled	No Positive	Prevalence %	X <sup>2</sup>	P – Value
Sex	Male	180	15	8.3	5.38	0.02
	Female	204	6	2.94		
Total		384	21	5.5		

**Table 4:** Prevalence of Trypanosomosis based on body condition score

Variables	Categories	No Sampled	No Positive	Prevalence %	X <sup>2</sup>	P - Value
Body Condition	Good	32	1	3.1	6.07	0.048
	Medium	211	7	3.3		
	Poor	141	13	9.2		
Total		384	21	5.5		

**Table 5:** Prevalence of Trypanosomosis based on PCV

Variables	Categories	No Sampled	No Positive	Prevalence %	X <sup>2</sup>	P – Value
PCV	Anemic	157	18	11.5	18.47	0.000
	Normal	227	3	1.3		

Total	384	21	5.5
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**Table 6:** Distribution of Trypanosomosis species in the study PAs

Species	PAs			Total Prevalence%
	Nano Halo	Halo Dinki	Biftu Jalala	
<i>T. Congolense</i>	6(75%)	5(71.4%)	2(33.33%)	13(61.91)
<i>T. Vivax</i>	1(12.5%)	2(28.6%)	4(66.67%)	7(33.33)
Mixed	1(12.5%)	-	-	1(4.76)
Total	8(38.1%)	7(33.33%)	6(28.57%)	21(100)

## 5. DISCUSSION

The present study revealed that trypanosomosis is a major constraint to the utilization of large land resources and also affect livestock in the Nono district. The determined overall prevalence was 21(5.5%), where 8(6.7%), 6(5.5%), 7(4.5%) prevalence was seen in Nano Halo, Biftu Jalala and Halo Dinki peasant associations respectively. These differences in prevalence between PAs had no statistically significant association ( $P < 0.05$ ). The overall result of present study agrees with the finding Zenebe *et al.* (2014) who reported (4.43%) in the selected villages of Arbaminch, southern Ethiopia, the reports of Adale and Yassine (2004) who reported 6.3% in Wolaita zone of Kindo Koish district, Southern Ehiopia. Higher than reports of Ayana *et al.* (2012) who reported prevalence of (2.1%) from Amhara region, Northwest Ethiopia.

However the present result was lower than reports of Muluwa *et al.* (2011) who reported prevalence of 28.1% from Asosa District of Benishangul Gumuz Regional State, Western Ethiopia; Fentahun and Tekeba (2013) reported prevalence of (12.4%) from Hawa Gelan District, Oromia Region, Ethiopia and Mulugeta (2013) who reported (13.24%) from Didessa valley western Ethiopia. A significant reduction of the Trypanomes infection in the current study area could be considerable suppression of tsetse flies' population by the use of strategic application of insecticide impregnated targets, spot on (deltametrin 1%) and use of strategic prophylactic and curative Trypanocidal drug treatment of livestock in the area based on the package prepared by Oromia Regional state animal and Fisheries Health and Development Agency to control livestock disease and trypanosomosis in the western Oromia settlement areas.

The current study indicates that the higher prevalence was recorded in young age group 13 (9.6%) than in adult 8(3.2%) which has statistically significance association ( $P = 0.008$ ). This agrees with reports of Gameda (2015), prevalence of 13.79% in young, 9.40% in adult and 4.0% in old in and around Nekemte Areas, East Wollega Zone, Ethiopia.

Present study revealed that higher prevalence was recorded in male 8.3% than female 2.94%. These has

significant association with prevalence of trypanosomiasis in cattle of the study area ( $P = 0.02$ ). This result agrees with Mulugeta (2014) who reported higher prevalence in male (12.67%) than female (12.22%) and Girma *et al.* (2014) indicating higher prevalence in male cattle than in female. This is a clear testimony of un stability of male animals. The higher infection rate in males compared to females in this study may be due to management related risk factors that male animals are mostly managed in extensive grazing fields where there is a high risk of tsetse challenge for longer hours than the female ones which are managed around house for milk yield especially during rainy season where oxen are which could decrease sent desert/ lowland areas which facilitates exposure to fly bites and there by the chance of getting infected by Trypanosomosis in the study area.

The study done in different body conditions revealed highest prevalence of Trypanosomosis in poor (9.3%) followed by medium (3.3%) and lower in good (3.1%) body condition. The difference in body condition is statistically significantly associated with prevalence of trypanosomiasis ( $P = 0.048$ ). This finding is in line with the report of Girma *et al.* (2014) who stated that, there is a significant difference ( $p < 0.05$ ) in trypanosome infection rate based on body condition of animals and it is also in agreement with the report of Ayana *et al.* (2012) reports of higher Trypanosome infection prevalence in poor body conditioned animals than in good and medium ones, this might be attributed to immune-suppression and stress in poor body condition animals.

The current study also indicated that the prevalence value appeared to be higher in anemic (11.5%) than in non-anemic 1.3% animals which agrees with reports of Mulalem (2014). The difference between PCV values of anemic and non- anemic cattle of the study area was significant ( $P = 0.000$ ). In fact the difference in mean PCV between anemic and non-anemic cattle indicated that trypanosomosis may be involved in adversely lowering the PCV values of infected animals. Regarding the case of apparently trypanosome free cattle with low PCV could be due to various concurrent disease and nutritional interference with development of



anemia, conversely many cattle having high PCV also show to be infected in which it may be occurred due to recent infection.

According to the result obtained, *T. congolense* 13(61.91%) was the predominant species and found to be a major cause of infection in the study area followed by *T. vivax* 7(33.33%) and mixed 1(4.76%) infection of *T. congolense* and *T. Vivax* which agree with reports of this finding agrees with Abiy (2002) who reported the higher prevalence of *T. Congolense* than *T. Vivax* in Goro district, south Ethiopia. This may be due to suppression of tsetse flies which resulted in lower *T. Vivax* prevalence as seen in the current study area.

## 6. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The present study indicated that Trypanosomosis is an important disease limiting livestock rearing and agricultural activity in the Nono district of Western Shewa, Oromia, Ethiopia. The overall prevalence of Bovine Trypanosome infection in the study area was 5.5%. In this study, *T. congolense*, *T. vivax* and mixed infection of *T. Congolense* and *T. vivax* are trypanosomes species identified. Higher prevalence of Trypanosomosis infection was observed in males, young cattle with poor body condition, anemic animal. There is statically significant association between body condition, sex and age, PCV values with infection. The current situation may get not worse as the prevention and control of Trypanosomosis is practicing in the area and that is limiting the vector and also chemotherapy.

Based above conclusion the following recommendations are recommended:

- A progressive integrated control campaign is quite necessary to minimize trypanosomosis prevalence and tsetse densities
- Strategic control of Bovine Trypanosomosis including vector control should be strengthened
- Further studies should be carried out on drug resistance which have essential roles for overall control of tsetse transmitted trypanosomosis

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