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## **Reduce of Post-Harvest Losses - a Research on the Methodology of Quantification**

Masterarbeit im FG Agrartechnik

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### Summary

To ensure food security in low income countries the reduction of post-harvest losses of milk and dairy products play a part in contributing to this aim FAO, IFAD & WFP (2013), Kader (2005). Milk and dairy products belong to the high value food commodities and can improve the financial situation of many small-scale farmers in East Africa. With an average total dairy milk production around 3.5 million L per year and estimated 10 — 30 % PHL the quantitative and economical losses are significant Gustavsson et al. (2011). In Ethiopia and Kenya spoiled milk is processed to fermented milk and cottage cheese at the farm level. The demand for soured dairy products is existing and traditionally included in the diet. Given the fact that in Ethiopia the religious habits influencing the milk consumption, the losses increase during the fasting periods. The consumption level in Kenya for milk products is almost reaching the world level with 100kg per head per year.

The aim of this study was to develop a methodology to quantify the PHL along the DVC in Ethiopia and Kenya. The study area comprises the major milk producing and consuming zones in Ethiopia (Central, around Addis Ababa) and in Kenya (Rift

Valley, Western Province). The developed methodology is adapted on the situation and resources of the study area and is dedicated to quantify losses along the dairy value chain. The provided methodology was conducted for the use by researchers. The results showed that there are already appropriate approaches existing and the complex situation is unravelled by identifying types, levels and causes of PHL according to Lore et al. (2004) and Lore et al. (2005). Obviously the developed methodologies of this study claim the use of reliable data of loss measurement, which could not be fully provided by the RELOAD researchers.