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2016 BHEARD Scholar  
**Kizito Nishimwe**

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# Profile

<b>Country of Study:</b>	United States of America
<b>University:</b>	Iowa State University
<b>Department:</b>	Food Science and Human Nutrition
<b>Student Position:</b>	Graduate Research Assistant—Ph.D.
<b>Hometown:</b>	Kigali, Rwanda
<b>Home Institution:</b>	University of Rwanda
<b>Home Position:</b>	Lecturer
<b>Mentored By:</b>	Home: Dr. Anastase Kimonyo USA: Dr. Dirk Maier

## *Research Area: Food Science and Nutrition*

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**BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE:** August 2015

**UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:** DVM., Inter-State School of Veterinary Sciences and Medicine of Dakar, Senegal

**GRADUATE EDUCATION:** M.Sc., Bio-Toxicology, Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar, Senegal; Advanced Master, Specialized Veterinary Medicine: Food Science Module, University of Liege, Belgium

**RESEARCH INTERESTS:** Kizito's research interest focuses on residues and contaminants, particularly mycotoxins. Mycotoxins are very harmful toxins produced by molds. Some of them, aflatoxins for example, cause liver cancer and stunting of children. In tropical countries, people are at high risk when they consume crops (e.g., cereals) contaminated by mycotoxins.

One challenge is that the mycotoxin issue is not well known and not well understood in these countries. Consequently, it can cause economic losses on the international market in addition to negative public health impacts. Kizito's research will focus on mycotoxin mitigation and new applicable strategies in tropical countries.