

Studies in Native Animal Husbandry. (12) A Wankonde Milk Pail.

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As mentioned in a former paper (Curson, Thomas and Neitz, 1930), the Wankonde or Wanyatyusa inhabit the country immediately north of Lake Nyasa. They are skilled in cattle management, and Fig. 1 shows the type of milk pail employed.



Fig. 1.—Wankonde milk pail (height 23 cm., diameter 11 cm., and capacity 1,200 cc.)

As will be observed, the vessel is quite unlike those shown in a previous study (Curson, Thomas and Neitz, 1933), being made of bamboo. Of particular interest are (a) the strengthening of the base with the skin taken from the limb of an ox, (b) the thin loop of hide by which the utensil is hung upside down when not in use, and (c) the common native pattern of triangles decorating the top half. The base of the pail is inserted into the skin "sock" or rather "mitten" usually taken from the forearm or lower thigh, when moist, so that when it dries it acts as a firm support.

The larger milk pail is made from a calabash (*ulukewa*), both of which are kept far cleaner than by natives in the sub-continent, particularly the Damaras.

Other Central African tribes, e.g. Wakinga, also use the bamboo pail.

REFERENCES.

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