

JUNE 2022



EBENEZER MATOBO

NEWS



We had a wonderful time this month celebrating our 14th Ebenezer graduation! After two years affected by covid restrictions, it was lovely this year to be able to invite family and friends to join us as we congratulated 29 second years and 53 first years on completing their courses. While we look forward to welcoming 38 of the 1st year graduates back for a second year at Ebenezer, the remaining graduates face a challenging economic situation as they leave Ebenezer and our prayer is that they find good opportunities to implement what they have learnt and the skills they have gained.

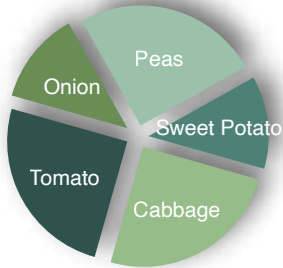
With graduation came the end of our Ebenezer year. Our second years had an excellent final Bible lesson with Hlulani Chauke who at the beginning of the last block gave each second year a seed to grow and nurture. It was fun to compare plants after several weeks and the exercise highlighted the importance of graduates nurturing their faith once they leave Ebenezer!

Two staff members enjoyed another visit to Ebenezer Zambia this month and came back bearing gifts - a sackful of sausage for our Ebenezer staff and apprentices to enjoy, which we did on our last family meal before graduation!

We appreciated a 3-day visit from friend of Ebenezer, Sarah Gerhardt, this month. Sarah spent three mornings running an excellent coaching workshop with our entire staff team during which we gained and practised useful coaching tools which we hope will benefit our apprentices.

PRODUCTION

4 hectares under irrigation



Our cropping team harvested 84 kg of pepper, 3,280 kg of tomatoes and 3,242 cabbages this month. We are especially pleased with how our cabbage crop has done with all apprentices hitting their production targets! We are now busily preparing land for the start of the new season.

We're glad to report that health has improved in our dairy herd. This month we were milking 38 cows and they produced a total of 11,276 litres of milk, of which 9,760 litres were saleable.

Challenges have continued in our layer houses with the transfer of several thousand birds between houses mentioned last month. We have been working hard to reconstruct the dismantled cages which were in danger of falling in layer house 4 and we are impressed with the attitude of our apprentices who have shown positivity and an enthusiasm to learn in these challenges!

Our current batch of broilers have maintained a good low mortality rate under 5%, however they are a little behind on their target weights.

A further challenge for our layers has been a shortage of feed which means we are not hitting the lay-rate we would like. In total our layers produced 443,801 eggs in June.

