

JULY 2022



EBENEZER MATOBO

# NEWS



Fantastic news this month was the arrival of 61 new apprentices to Ebenezer. They have started their Foundation Course with great enthusiasm and our second years have done a great job of welcoming them and making them feel at home. We had an excellent Orientation Week with the new arrivals, introducing them to the Ebenezer way of life and spending time getting to know them. The week included plenty of team building games, some serious sports competitions and some epic hikes to the local mountain, Silozwe.

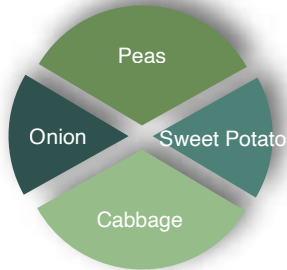
With the start of our new Ebenezer year, we have also enjoyed getting back into the swing of classroom lessons. First years have been learning a lot about Foundations for Farming and conservation farming techniques in their Agriculture lessons, second years have been delving into the book of Ephesians in their Bible lessons and all apprentices have been learning a lot about themselves in our Communication lesson series "All about Me" which looks at understanding ourselves, managing our emotions and seeing things from another's perspective.

As well as new apprentices arriving this month, we also welcomed two new attachment students. Varaidzo Tambire and Davison Ncube are both studying at Esigodini Agricultural College and will be spending the next few months getting stuck in with us at Ebenezer and gaining hands on experience in all of our productive areas.

We're excited once more to be starting a new Youth Alpha series in our Family Nights. As well as these evenings being a great time of fun, fellowship and feasting, Youth Alpha also provides a fantastic opportunity for our new apprentices to be introduced to the Christian Faith in an environment which encourages curiosity, exploration and revelation!

# PRODUCTION

3 hectares under irrigation



In July our cropping team closed our current tomato crop with a final harvest of 10,880 kg. We also harvested 2,046 cabbage heads, 1,056 bunches of onions, 140 kg of peppers and 2 kg of peas.

Nothing was planted this month, but land prep has continued for the coming Summer season with a lot of planting planned for August.

This month saw a slight increase in production in our layer section, with a total of 515,837 eggs produced. Following our challenges with unstable cages, we have completed the reconstruction of the first cage in Layer House 4 and work is now underway to rebuild the second one.

We closed our latest batch of 10,000 broilers this month with mixed results - our birds hit an excellent average weight of 2.85 kg but achieved a poor FCR as a result of 344 missing birds at the end of the batch! Despite this the batch, surprisingly, still made a profit.

Our dairy produced 6,595 litres of saleable milk in July. We are pleased that our cows have increased their average daily production from 8 litres of milk per cow to 11 litres per cow. We have also seen an improvement in our cow health this month.

