

JUNE-AUGUST 2022



EBENEZER KAZUNGULA

NEWS



Big news in June was our first years' Foundation Graduation at the beginning of the month. This marked the completion of their first 3 months at Ebenezer and we are delighted that 18 apprentices are continuing with us into the year-long Intermediate Course. There was a lot of excitement and emotion around the celebration of their achievement, with family and friends joining us, much singing and dancing, and a feast of good food!



It has been fantastic to see a great atmosphere and attitude amongst our first years throughout the Foundation Course. They have shown plenty of curiosity to learn as well as commitment and hard work as they have rotated around the various Productive Learning Areas.



At the end of June, we plunged into block 2 of training, with new modules starting in all subjects. Second years have been enjoying a module on Experiencing God in their Bible lessons, first years are being introduced to the Five Pillars of Business and Agriculture, and all apprentices have been doing a Communication module undertaking a crop research project which incorporates many practical communication skills such as writing emails, making presentations and holding a debate!



Our second years have completed an in depth Business module looking at Marketing and have undertaken several marketing challenges as part of their learning. Competing against one another to sell the same products within the Ebenezer community has brought some frustration and a greater understanding of supply and demand challenges! In August they pooled together their profits from the various challenges, purchased food and drink and had a party!

PRODUCTION

The last two months have seen apprentices very busy placing broilers! Eight second years and twelve first years have placed a total of 46,449 birds, working in pairs across 10 houses. They have been working especially hard to make sure their birds hit their 14-day target weights which is essential if the birds are to continue to grow well. It's a new experience for most of our first years and they are learning a lot in the process. Mortality has been low and we have high expectations of these batches!



Four apprentices closed a batch of broilers in June. They received disappointing results with a mortality of 14% and an FCR of 2.11. From the 9,150 chicks placed they produced 19,969 kg of live weight meat, a good average weight of 2.5 kg per bird. However the high mortality and high FCR meant that unfortunately the batch made a loss.



Four second year apprentices are enjoying the experience of working with layers as they care for our 6,911 birds. They are working hard to keep the flock laying well as the birds age and near the end of their laying cycle. We are excited to have upcoming plans to build some smaller thatched layer houses which our apprentices will be able to take a more hands on role in managing and overseeing - watch this space!



Apprentices in our cropping team have been working hard to prepare land and plant the summer crops. Currently in the ground are maize, tomatoes, onion, green beans and egg plant. We also have a nursery bed for cabbage and onions.



Apprentices Clifford and Vincent enjoyed a recent trip to town to help with the marketing and delivery of tomatoes, a great experience beyond production to see what happens to our crops once they are harvested and to witness some of the challenges faced in marketing!