

NOVEMBER 2022



EBENEZER RAPALE

NEWS



The occasion of major importance this month was the arrival of our new apprentices! On Monday 14th we welcomed 18 guys and 3 girls into the Ebenezer Rapale family. We are grateful to God to have them with us and they are engaging well with Ebenezer staff and their new environment. It has been fun to see them enjoying trying new things in a new way!



We have wasted no time in getting our apprentices stuck into a jam-packed training schedule and they are enjoying lessons and practical training in Bible, Business, Agriculture and the 5 Values in a Family.



Agriculture training has been exciting for our new arrivals as they have been introduced to Foundations for Farming, an approach to conservation farming which is based on biblical principles and challenges mindsets and traditions related to land and cropping. The training is very practical, so apprentices are gaining hands on experience as they apply what they are learning to their own plot of maize.



Our apprentices have also been settling into their new Family groups. Being in families creates a fun and inclusive environment at Ebenezer, where each apprentice is known and cared for. We also enjoy weekly get togethers in our families which always include great food, fun and fellowship. We have two Ebenezer Families, the Tomatoes led by the Chicanas, and the Massaroca (green maize) led by the Cunninghams.

As we seek to serve not only our apprentices but also the wider community, Ebenezer has been continuing to host and deliver monthly trainings for outside businesses and NGOs. We are currently delivering day-long agribusiness workshops based around a chicken game to potential farmers. Some of those we train are then selected to be out-grower layer farmers in the community.

PRODUCTION

Our fields continue to flourish and our crops are looking spectacular. In November we harvested one hectare of green maize. The maize looked great but sadly the market was flooded and so we didn't receive the price we hoped for. We have two more plots of green maize in the ground which we expect to harvest later in December.



Our half hectare of tomato is fruiting well and will be ready for harvest in the next week or so.



Vegetables in the green house continue to thrive and it is great to be able to demonstrate the diversity possible within this environment as well as its benefits, such as pest prevention and shade. We have cucumber, green pepper, broccoli and tomatoes, all of which are enhancing our Ebenezer diet!

Our layers are continuing to hit lay-rates above international standards which is a great testament to our poultry team. The flock of 3,893 birds are 60 weeks old and achieving an average lay-rate of 89%



INTRODUCING

Field Coach Fernando Inácio Alfredo, has been on the Ebenezer team for about three years. From Rapale, Fernando has shown himself to be not only a passionate farmer but also someone who loves working with young people and loves the Ebenezer vision. He has a big heart for the apprentices and he does an amazing job of training and encouraging them. The quality of our crops demonstrate Fernando's desire for excellence and it is a joy to work alongside him. He is a great teacher who is currently training our apprentices in Foundations for Farming and he is someone who is always seeking to improve and innovate in his work. Keep it up, Fernando!

