

NOVEMBER 2022



EBENEZER MATOBO

# NEWS



The rains have come bang on time this year and November has been a month of flourishing fields and fauna at Ebenezer, with the landscape turning green seemingly overnight. Apprentices have been flourishing too, with great participation in all aspects of Ebenezer life and a great atmosphere of enthusiasm and joy on site!



We've had lots of visitors this month which has been wonderful! Our Advanced Bible class have enjoyed visiting speakers every week, sharing on different aspects of family such as Singleness, Laying Foundations for Marriage, Family & Culture, Forgiveness, and much more. We've appreciated our visitors sharing from their own experience and the topics have sparked a lot of good discussion.



Second years have continued to have fun in their Business Records lessons. In groups, they are competing in baking challenges that not only incorporate record keeping but also a lot of cake eating! Mr Nyams is our Quality Control Officer and so he has also been enjoying the cakes, as well as keeping his own records of which groups are producing the best quality cakes. His results will be revealed at the end of the training block, with a prize for the winning team!

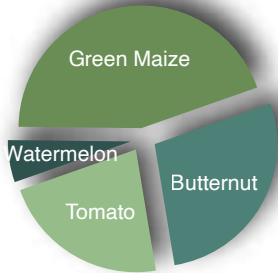


On November 26th, we held a much-anticipated graduate reunion. It was a great time with about 30 graduates sharing encouraging stories of their journeys since leaving Ebenezer. Many are involved in successful agricultural enterprises and throughout the day there was an atmosphere of gratitude for all they had learned and gained at Ebenezer.

As well seeing our graduates face to face, we also love hearing their news via whatsapp. This month, 2021 graduate Prince Moyo sent some photos of his fantastic cabbage and tomato crops! Working as a cropping manager in Shangani, Prince has been growing tomato, cabbage and carrots, with some of his produce making it onto supermarket shelves in Bulawayo!

# PRODUCTION

18 hectares under irrigation



Our dairy herd has continued to thrive, with our milk production averaging at 18.2 litres per cow per day and hitting 20 litres on some days! Of our herd of 91, 22-24 are in milk and in total they produced just over 10,000 litres of milk in November.

In November, we caught up with our planned August planting, with 2 hectares each of tomato and butternut going into the ground. We had hoped to plant 8 hectares of green maize, but with tractor challenges only managed 3 hectares this month.

With fast ripening and good fruit development, this month we surpassed our tomato and watermelon harvests! In total 10,340 kg of tomatoes were harvested and 7,307 melons, more than double what we expected! We also harvested 12,828 kg of butternut.

Our layer team have continued their hard work towards mechanising more of our layer production. Cages incorporating motorised manure removal are currently being constructed in house two. These cages will increase the capacity of this house from 8,600 to 12,000 birds.

By the end of November, our current batch of broilers had reached 5 weeks of age. Weights are a bit below target but so far our mortality rate has been good at only 3.3%.

