

MARCH 2023



EBENEZER RAPALE

NEWS

Apprentices have continued to throw themselves into both learning and production with enthusiasm in March. With plenty of rain this month, some production pressures disrupted lessons for a week or so, but otherwise we have enjoyed our normal rhythm of Bible lessons, Foundations for Farming, Literacy lessons, and discipleship underpinning it all. In the coming weeks we are looking forward to starting some Communication lessons which we hope will help apprentices know themselves better, as well as grow in their understanding of others.

It is a great joy and encouragement to see apprentices becoming more and more involved in local churches, namely Namitatar, Topene, Four Caminhos and Mahetha. Through participating in these congregations we are seeing good relationships and lots of growth in our apprentices.

Family Nights continue to be fantastic times of fellowship and fun. The Chicana Family recently enjoyed a cake-making competition with two teams competing to see who could make the fastest cake that still tasted good! It was, of course, nice to then feast on the cake!



PRODUCTION

This month our apprentices learned another difficult lesson in the courage required to be a farmer. We had a lovely crop of butter beans which sadly we lost due to intense rain which fell for many days. Our staff team have been working hard to encourage apprentices in the face of this loss, and we must take from it what learning we can.

With an easing of the rain, we have transplanted onion which is looking very healthy at present. Our apprentices have done a great job managing the crop and we are hopeful for a fruitful outcome.

We have also been harvesting some beautiful cabbages this month! Our market is not always easy to manage and we are battling with good price negotiation, but we have produced a good crop nonetheless.

We are currently farming 3,315 layer birds which have already reached 76 weeks of age. Considering their age, we are really pleased with their lay-rate of 86%, and we are grateful for the steady income they provide.

INTRODUCING

First year apprentice, Dionísio Felisberto is 21 years old and comes from Zambezia Province. Since he came to Ebenezer in November, he has shown himself to be a hard working and committed young man. He has a calm nature and is steady in his work, always completing tasks on time and showing a great appreciation of the Foundations for Farming principles: on time, to standard, without waste and with joy! Dionísio likes being part of the Cunningham Family Group where he is particularly enjoying their study of the book of Philippians at the moment. As well as Bible study and farming, he also enjoys puzzle games!

