

DECEMBER 2023



EBENEZER KAZUNGULA

NEWS



December was a month of big changes at Ebenezer Kazungula as we bid farewell to the Phiri family! Moses, Makola, Jochebed and Hephzibah joined us in early 2022 and Moses has been involved in leading our Kazungula team for the past 2 years. We have loved and appreciated the Phiri presence at Ebenezer, their heart to see apprentices grow and their commitment to disciplining them. We are sorry to say good bye but excited for what comes next for this family as they join a local mission organisation.



As we said good bye to the Phiris, we welcomed Chushi Kasongo as our new team lead. It has been great having him on site as he familiarises himself with the ins and outs of Ebenezer production and gets to know our apprentices!



As 2023 drew to a close, so did our 3rd training block of the year. We received positive feedback from apprentices on their experiences across Ebenezer over the past training block and it was lovely to end the year hearing how they have grown in faith, knowledge and skills. Here's to more of the same in 2024!



With lessons done for the year, the remainder of December was focused on production, with apprentices taking it in turns to return home for a short break. Those remaining on site had a fantastic time together at Christmas, with fun and games and of course plenty of festive food!

The same was true for apprentices on site for New Year. They took a lot of effort to decorate our communal area, enjoyed a party together and topped the night off with some fireworks!

PRODUCTION

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We have seen excellent results from our layer section this month, with praise due to apprentices Edgar, Teresa and Carol. With a fluctuating lay rate which had dropped to 63% in by mid-December, prompt action and good management from these three saw the lay rate swiftly return to 94% by the end of the month!

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Our broiler teams have continued to face some challenges and the two batches closed in December left us with disappointing results. High mortalities ranging between 9.9% and 16.6% led to high FCRs and a loss for both batches. A total of 13,413 kg of meat was produced.

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We hope for better results from two batches placed in the middle of December. Four apprentices are overseeing two batches of approximately 4,500 birds each. We have been impressed with their hard work, especially in preparing their brooders and cutting firewood. For some of them it was their first time to cut firewood and they showed strength and perseverance as they undertook the task!

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Our cropping section is looking good, with maize now planted and showing positive signs of producing a good harvest in 2024!

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