



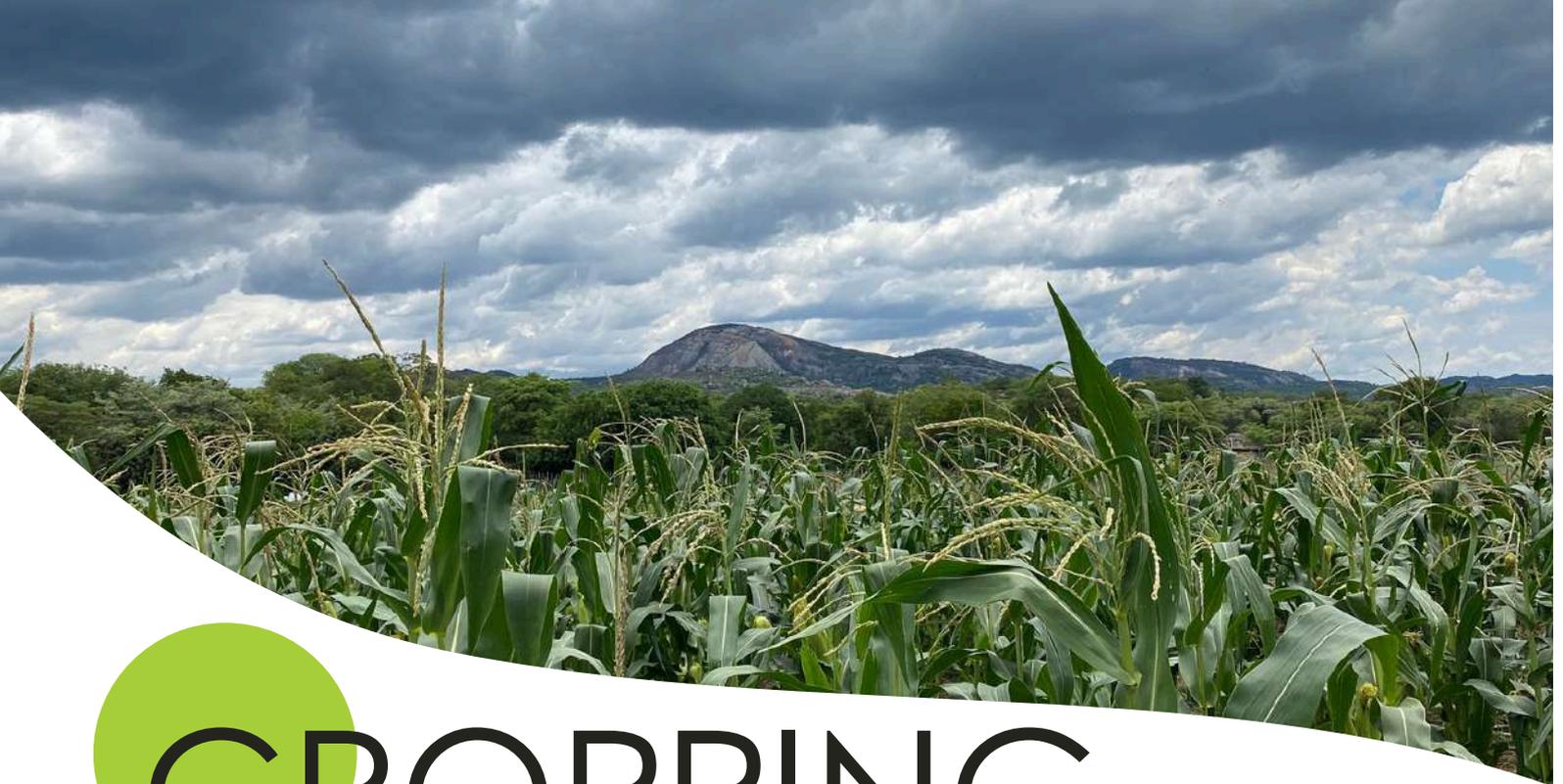
# EBENEZER MATOBO

Big news in November was the opportunity for 7 of our staff team to attend a 4-day Dialogue Education workshop. Dialogue Education is a learning-centred approach to adult education that emphasises student participation and the collaborative building of knowledge through shared learning and conversation between trainers and students. The workshop was facilitated by Global Leadership Partner coaches David and Jessica who came all the way from the States and Canada to deliver the training. With some of our staff team having already benefited from this workshop earlier in the year, it is now exciting to have so many on our team talking the same language and excited by new ideas and approaches to enhance and develop the coaching and training we offer at Ebenezer. It was also fantastic to have colleagues Abedinigo and James join us from Ebenezer Zambia, further strengthening the shared culture and approach between our Ebenezer sites.

At the end of November, it was our pleasure to play host to 40 young mums and their babies who were participating in a workshop run by Lullaby Africa. Lullaby Africa is an organisation dedicated to supporting people form attachment to their babies and toddlers. We are grateful for the input they are having into the communities around Ebenezer.

In other family-related news, 6 of our on-site couples enjoyed a Saturday morning together with Godfrey and Sibongile Mhlanga, discussing together around the theme of "Iron sharpens iron" and the logs that are needed to keep the flame alive in a healthy fireplace! We also enjoyed hearing stories of how and where we met as couples.

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# CROPPING

November has been a great month for our cropping teams. We managed to fix our diesel engine which has been struggling to operate for some time. This meant we could reliably pump water whether on solar or diesel; however, we have also received good rains and so our crops have received consistent water throughout the month.

With such good weather conditions and reliable irrigation, our crops are looking promising and we are on track to hit our harvest targets. This is rewarding and encouraging for our coaches and apprentices who have worked so hard to manage their fields.

We have already begun to harvest some of our commercial crops, with 70,820 kg of processing tomatoes going to the market this month alongside 8,622 watermelons!

Currently in the ground we have 6 ha of butternut, 4.5 ha of tomato, 3 ha of watermelon and 10 ha of maize. We are now entering one of the busiest seasons of our year, with all hands on deck to keep weeds at bay and harvest everything our fields are producing!





# LIVESTOCK

Our dairy was blessed with 3 calves this month, 2 females and 1 male. We are in the process of making some changes in our dairy, merging it with one of our cropping areas to be a combined Productive Learning Area. Within this area, we have planted paddocks with lablab bean, intercropped with cow peas as pastures for our herd.

Our layer flocks are achieving good lay-rates with Layer House 1 hitting an average lay-rate of 89% against a target of 80%! To have birds aged 77 weeks producing like this is quite something. Our other layer houses are hitting close to, or slightly over, their target lay-rates, however we are still battling a mortality percentage which is higher than we would like.

At the start of November, we placed a healthy batch of 9,967 broiler chicks. Our broiler team has done a good job of keeping these chicks warm and dry during some wet and windy weather, getting them through the vulnerable brooding phase with little mortality. Since then, we have seen a bit of an increase in mortality which we are suspecting may be the result of respiratory infections. Our team has been quick to address the issue and by the end of the month we were seeing an improvement. As production gets back on track, we are keeping a close eye on the flock's health and growth.





# INTRODUCING...

There are a lot of people involved in ensuring that Ebenezer runs smoothly and that our apprentices and staff are well cared for. As you might imagine, some very important cogs in our Ebenezer machine are our cooking team!

Meet Sifanele Maphosa, NamaKhupe to our apprentices and a member of our important Hospitality Team. As well as cooking and serving nutritious meals, our Hospitality Team also ensure our campus is looking smart and clean, any visitors are well-looked-after and that Ebenezer is generally a nice place in which to stay!

NamaKhupe lives in the community close to Ebenezer, where she stays with her 5 children aged between 9 and 21. She joined the Ebenezer Team as one of our cooks back in 2021, when she was looking for a means of providing for her family. She has always enjoyed cooking, and therefore saw her new role as a natural fit. Having cooked large meals for extended family, she says that the jump to cooking for 100+ people three times a day did not feel too overwhelming!

When asked what she likes about her job, NamaKhupe says she loves the atmosphere at Ebenezer. "I enjoy the unity of everyone together, talking to apprentices and guiding them. I like caring for many people and I have learnt to relate with lots of different people and to embrace diversity." And what about working within the Hospitality Team? "I enjoy how we work together and support one another. If I have a problem, we solve it together."

NamaKhupe's hope for the future is to keep working so that she is able to support her children through their schooling until they reach a point where they are self-sustaining.

Thank you for keeping us well-fed and healthy, NamaKhupe!

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