

NEWSLETTER - JULY – AUGUST 2008

Real progress is such a wonderful thing to be able to report!

WHAT A JOY! Having just returned from Sudan on July 28th, I am astounded at what God is doing with the donations you have given. It was an encouraging trip, beginning to end. All I have is good news . . .



Cal with Amos and a crop of peanuts

Fiona, our accountant, is doing a wonderful job of keeping accurate accounts for all the farms. Some farms are now operating in the black. We are getting closer all the time to when we will no longer have to subsidize any operational expenses. That will leave us free to begin the **next** new 2,000 acre farms with your donations. As you know, the goal is to bring each farm to self-sufficiency in order for us (you and me) to concentrate on new farms and new and larger machinery. Only another 98,000 acres to go! Can you help us do it? God is able!

In Sudan we went to the new, relatively small farm at Mogiri about 10 km away from SFC headquarters. Amos, the manager, though young, is doing a terrific job. There's not a lazy bone in his body! We happened to arrive as they were loading 4.2 metric tones of G-nuts (peanuts to us). He had grown this as an interim crop while trying to develop the fruit farm there and already sold it for a total of \$1200.00 (USA). He also had crops of corn almost ready to harvest. That's another \$2,750.00 income for Mogiri farm. He has yet to harvest onions and cassava. When you consider that involves a little more than 15 acres, he is doing **very** well. The total cost (excluding land clearing) was about \$7,200.00 (full year) for all salaries, staff, fuel and repairs. Costs will increase very little when he has 30 acres or 100 acres. This young man is on his way to making a great farm manager!



Cal with Emanuel, Monday and Hamsa with the bulldozer at the Bori Farm

We bounced on roads that we are now re-building to what will be our **Model Farm**, the 2000 acre farm at Bori! Emmanuel, our twenty-three year old farm manager, pointed across the vast fields of corn almost ready to harvest, past the bulldozer clearing more land, past the bush that was being cleared, past the imagination of much older men, and said: *"When we reach those high trees over there, we will have 1,000 acres to harvest by this time next year"*. That will grow a *minimum* of 1,000 metric tonnes of corn, worth \$300,000.00. We were told there is a small 2 km long lake in the middle of the many thousands of acres we have yet to clear. By this time next year, Bori farm will pay **ALL** of its own costs and make a profit. The profit will be poured back into developing the next 1,000 acres immediately! Praise the Lord! I wish you had been there to see it all. These pictures may help. You can imagine what it was like to be there.



The bulldozer clearing trees in Bori

I was thrilled seeing the bulldozers clearing the land. I thought of our Canadian past and our pioneer farmers who hand cleared many thousands of acres. We are clearing land at a very accelerated pace. What a great investment those bulldozers are! Our African operators are every bit as good as any Canadian operator. One bulldozer is making roads in order to deliver our produce to Juba, a very, very hungry city of a million people. Soon **both** bulldozers will be constantly clearing new land. I can't express the high level of confidence I have in the future.

NEW farms must be cleared, as a separate operation, with subsidies from Canada. That's **our** part. When a new farm begins to produce more than its own operational costs it will then also contribute to the establishing new farms. This will snowball into many thousands of food-producing acres. The local 'small farmers' near the SFC farms are becoming more and more productive as well. It is now estimated we are making an impact on about 400,000 people. In fact, it is hitting the newspapers in Sudan. Here's a quote from the newspaper about one small farmer:

"Joseph Nyombe says he has become independent 'I no longer wait for relief food like it was the case. I am able



Maize in the newly cleared fields at Bori

to send my children to school with support from the Savannah Farmers Cooperative. I have also improved on my production and I hope to do much better' says Nyombe."

We have over 300 small farmers who have applied for the use of our machinery!

The cost of food in Sudan in some cases is from 120% to 288% higher than in Uganda because of the lack of food. I don't understand how people stay alive in Juba with what they can get. We are on the edge of changing that drastically for the good. By producing food **inside** Sudan's south, we can eventually force the prices down!

I had the opportunity on Saturday, July 26th to speak to the top political leadership of the Government of Southern Sudan. They responded to my invitation and stood to their feet immediately and pledged themselves to fight corruption adding, "So help me God". I have been asked to supply 300 DVD copies of that challenge. I sensed God's presence as I gave a no-punches-pulled speech. Two hundred copies of the speech were also distributed to Members. **Thank you for praying!** The results appear to have started in less than three days. Zamba Duku, our Managing Director for the Savannah Farmers Cooperative wrote the following to me on August 4th.

"For your information, Cal, the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly seems to have suddenly found a new form of energy. Since you left it has been far, far more active than previously. For example it has summoned the Minister of Interior (the person in charge of the Police) for some tough questioning about the Police's interference in the work of the states. The state governments were losing a lot of money to the police through their issuance of motor vehicle licenses (what constitutionally should be done by the states). I understand that the Parliament has also issued summons to two governors (including our own) to answer questions about problems in their states. This is a new face of the Parliament and although I cannot say definitely that it is due to your lecture to the Assembly Leadership, I find the fact that this robustness follows your lecture very interesting. God is definitely at work. __ Zamba"



Cal addressing the top leaders of the Government of Southern Sudan

They are taking the challenge to fight corruption, fraud and theft very seriously. While God works on the hearts of the leaders of southern Sudan, we have to continue working on the soil on the farms. The need for a large 40 foot truck has now become critical. Bringing in fuel for the tractors and bulldozers is crucial. Delivering the food to the hungry before it spoils is an absolute MUST. We don't even have adequate storage for so much produce.

Please give serious prayer to the immediate needs we have for \$220,000.00 to get essential vehicles and dry storage built for food in transit from the farms to the hungry. We want to **reduce** the cost of food in Sudan.

Another quote from the NEW VISION newspaper: **"At present we have a World Bank-supported loan program for farmers which serves as a micro-credit support, with the SFC using a World Bank loan to help plough farmers' lands and to provide them with seeds and other necessary help, all of which are to be repaid after crop harvest and sales."** says Mr. Zamba. **"For this year alone, The World Bank has set aside one hundred thousand U. S dollars for the SFC program. The Cal Bombay Ministries Inc (a Canadian-based Christian Organization) is funding SFC."**

Please do the best you can to help us take full advantage of how God has blessed the crops by delivering it into the hands and stomachs of those who need it. Your donation is very critical right now. Please use the enclosed envelope to send in your donation. And pray! Please pray for me and for our impact on Sudan.

With deep gratitude to you and to God,

Cal Bombay



Cal Bombay Ministries

Mail:
P.O. Box 22021
794 Colborne Street East
Brantford, Ontario
N3S 7V1 Canada

Office Phone: (519) 753-7380
Fax: (519) 753-6229

Please do your best to beat back the hunger in Sudan.

1-877-577-8326 (1-877-75SUDAN)

Or, use the enclosed envelope.