

NEWSLETTER – June - July 2011

Growth Has Great Challenges And Great Rewards!

A new momentum seems to have taken hold in both the government and in the Savannah Farmers Co-operative farms in South Sudan.

I wish I had all the space necessary to tell you *everything*. Just not possible I'm afraid! Developments on the farms and in government relations have become more and more positive. As you are aware, I spoke to the Legislature of the Government of Southern Sudan. The reaction was remarkable! Within the Legislature itself, one of the members stood and with a glowering look, looked throughout the Assembly and said in no uncertain terms, "There is corruption within this room". He went on to say, "I will give my life in the fight against corruption!" I met with him later, and I am convinced he **will** fight corruption in government. You can see the full content of my "Lecture" from April 26th to the government at: www.calbombayministries.org. See the link at the bottom of the **Home Page**.



Cal addressing the Government of South Sudan on corruption

South Sudan will become the newest Nation in the world on July 9th 2011. They need our prayers very much indeed. Threats of war and attempts to goad South Sudan into military response are being made by the North. But the government of South Sudan have deliberately chosen not to respond. As a new nation they will 'turn the other cheek'. The international community is monitoring what happens in South Sudan and I am personally confident that there will not be



Zamba and Peter the Bori Farm manager at the fields

a return to war. Our Managing Director, the Hon. Zamba Duku, is also very confident, and has been giving himself wholly to the development of the farms.

Here is what he says about our progress:

"The crops are doing very well because the rains have been quite good so far. Weeding of both the maize and the vegetables is proceeding well. It is clear that this year's crop will be better than that of last year. Last year our planting was distorted by the poor rains. In our struggle to ensure that we planted crop on the whole field, we ended up having only one crop



Corn starting to grow in the Bori fields

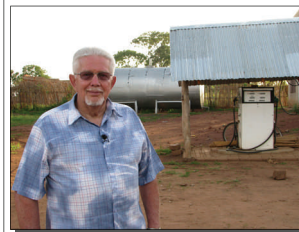
instead of the two we should have had if the rains had followed the usual patternsThe bush clearing is proceeding very well. All that land which we had marked out for clearing and for planting in the second season has been cleared, much before the time I expected (I had thought that it would take Francis (the bulldozer driver) until September to clear that chunk of land but he has finished it much earlier, which means that we shall exceed my expectations very much with regard to the opening up of new land." (Zamba wrote that in mid March.)



One of the CATs working to clear new farm land

This is a direct result of our two newer D6H Caterpillar Bulldozers working from dawn to dusk. Each of the Bulldozers clears ten acres a day, and uses about 200 litres of diesel. Diesel costs about \$1.20 (see next page) per litre. So you can sense the challenge. Zamba wrote the following to me the other day:

"We need more fuel. We will soon need to pay the labour costs for the builders of the mill and the other houses. Moreover, the bulldozer consumes huge quantities of fuel and now that there are going to be two of them and we are going to have more tractors running (ploughing the new lands), we shall need lots of fuel. I would say that we should now purchase sixty thousand litres at a go (the full capacity of the tank). But the road to Juba is still very bad; in fact it is



Cal with the pump and tank that need filling

far worse than when we crossed it twice moving on it from and to Juba (April). Do you recall crossing a sandy, dry river bed on that journey? I am very sad to tell you that four days ago that seemingly harmless, dry stream claimed the lives of twenty eight Ugandan business people with their children. Forty people were swept away by a flash flood. Four bodies were never recovered as they were swept into the Nile. Eight people survived."



The dry stream bed on the Juba road that flash flooded and killed 28 people

As you can see, it is dangerous. Those people were in a large truck. We need a tanker to bring the fuel over that road to fill our 60,000 litres tank. But is it essential if we are to continue clearing land and increasing our food production. Our production, in spite of rain problems, was again larger than ever before. Zamba again writes about what his expectations are:



Winnowing corn

“Fiona (Fiona is our Financial Administrator) will make her sales report soon. I know the sales were far better this time round than last year. And talking about the sales, the World Food Programme people visited the Ransak SFC farm yesterday yet again, and were very pleasantly surprised with the work done so far. They were also pleasantly surprised to hear that people almost literally fought over the crops during the sales, with each wanting to buy more. (Did we tell you that we had to introduce a form of "rationing" to ensure that as many people as possible got a chance to buy some grain?)”

It doesn't take much imagination to realize how severe the need for food is when people come near fighting just to get some. There are still more than two million people living in near starvation conditions in South Sudan.

In some ways, our backs are against the wall. We are clearing land in record speed and efficiency now, but we need more fuel for both the bulldozers to clear the land, and tractors to plough, harrow and plant the seed. Another problem is that we are unable to keep up to the repairs necessary for our tractors. Our on-site mechanics are limited in their abilities. Fortunately, we seem to have overcome the challenges of regular maintenance checks, and problems are becoming less and less. Yet we have too many tractors out of service until some major repairs can be done.



Repairing ploughs for the next days work

(The problem multiplies when we face the challenge of the many small acreage farmers. We are trying to help to increase their acreage and productivity.) We have set a goal of helping 1,500 small farmers (five to twenty-five acres) by the end of 2012. That calls for a lot of tractors. Each of these farmers pays a very nominal fee per acre, but if we can't get enough fuel, and we have too many tractors up on blocks, we are stymied.

That again hi-lights the need to start building our repair workshop as soon as possible! – \$42,000 is still needed for the workshop building.



Fuel and maintenance needed to keep the equipment running

We have received a major gift to get the machinery for our grinding mill. We rejoice, since we need only another \$35,000 which will cover machinery, transportation and installation at the Bori farm. The mill will process forty metric tonnes per day (maize, sorghum, any grains, and even cassava.)

Our latest word from Zamba Duku (25th of June). President Bashir of northern Sudan is still doing everything he can to sabotage the peace of South Sudan before the July 9th declaration of independence.



The mill building is ready for the installation of the equipment

Just when we got assurance of cheaper prices for fuel for all our tractors and bulldozers, Zamba informed me that the North of Sudan has cut off ALL fuel deliveries to South Sudan. There is less than a week's supply on hand for the south, including our farms. President Bashir wants to cripple South Sudan before it can even get started.

That crippling also affects our farms. We have a 60,000 litres diesel fuel storage tank standing empty. Fuel supply is also short in neighbouring Uganda. The best we can do is to buy a full tanker from the refinery in Mombasa, Kenya (over 1700 km away.) This has become an emergency in when facing the hungry situation. Our cost for 60,000 litres will be about \$80,000.

Please, please **PRAY** about this.

The Postal Strike has hit us hard.

I thank you for your continued support. You keep us moving forward.

Yours in Christ, for South Sudan

Cal

Cal Bombay

"Behold, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and look at the fields, that they are white already to HARVEST."

Matthew 9:37-38

Contact us:



HarvestSudan.com

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

Email: cal@calbombayministries.org
www.calbombayministries.org
www.harvestsudan.com

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

1-888-577-8326 (1-888-57SUDAN)

Or use the enclosed envelope.