

# Heartland Cropping and Ebenezer Africa



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Heartland Cropping Zambia



**EBENEZER AFRICA** is a church initiative working to equip young people in rural Africa with the practical skills needed to run their own small-scale agricultural businesses, and the spiritual maturity to live Christ-centered lives in their communities.

Full time residential apprentices at Ebenezer Africa are enrolled for courses lasting between three months and two years. Apprentices receive training in business principles, small-scale agriculture and the Christian life. We combine classroom teaching and discussion with practical fieldwork, so each apprentice not only learns about small-scale agriculture, but has the opportunity to partner in the running of an agricultural business.

As apprentices partner with us in business and agriculture, they earn financial graduation rewards based on their harvests. These rewards are banked in individual seed capital accounts released to the apprentices on their graduation. This means apprentices have the financial means to establish their own businesses once they leave Ebenezer.

Many US farmers and families find value in the efforts of Ebenezer Africa and donate their time and resources.

**HEARTLAND'S BEST** is an agricultural and agro-processing company whose vision is to unlock Zambia's productive potential, reduce poverty and help Zambia actualize its vision of becoming a prosperous middle-income nation by 2030.

This is accomplished by investing in the establishment of value chains that incorporate small scale farmers. We believe the power of Africa is in her people who have enormous potential, most of whom are small scale farmers who live in naturally productive areas. We believe this potential can be unlocked through strategic partnerships.

Heartland's Best works closely with small scale farms in chicken and egg production; supplying chicks, feed, processing, and markets.

Heartland's Best is owned and supported by farmers and families from Michigan and Iowa, run as a *Business As a Mission* the profits from Heartland's support Ebenezer Africa through funding and give opportunities to small scale farmers and employees.



**HEARTLAND'S CROPPING (HC)** is a division of Heartland's Best.

It is the purpose of Heartland's Cropping to offer custom agronomy services and training to small scale farmers to improve yields of row crops and vegetable crops. Mechanization is a limiting factor to the productivity of the farmers in Zambia and sending equipment from the US is a cost-effective way to benefit the farming partners HC will work with.

Initially a cropping unit will be established on a farm North of Livingstone Zambia. From this first "*equipment hub*" HC will do custom tillage, planting, and offer agronomic assistance to the small-scale farmers near the farm. At harvest the production of these small farmers will be pooled at the equipment hub to sell cooperatively to the market or the Heartland's Best Feed and Grain Mill.

With the addition of mechanization, teaching, and market access farmers will be able to pay for Heartland Cropping's services and profit greatly from their increased production.

As Heartland's Cropping maximizes its impact in one area additional Equipment Hubs can be added to benefit more Zambian farmers.

### **What is a Business As a Mission (BAM)?**

"Business as Mission is about real, viable, sustainable and profitable businesses; with a Kingdom of God purpose, perspective and impact; leading to a transformation of people and societies spiritually, economically and socially – to the greater glory of God."- Mats Tunehag

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What do we need?

Heartland Cropping will be run as a Business As a Mission and soon be self-supporting. While we are getting established, support from our friends is extremely helpful and will remain important to allow HC to grow exponentially without debt. Your support of time, money, and other resources is essential to the success and outreach in Sub-Saharan Africa. Because this is a cropping outreach there is also a unique opportunity to donate your good used farm equipment to either send to Africa or sell to fund the shipping of other equipment.

### Already donated

3 – John Deere 4020 tractors  
Row Cultivator  
Vegetable Cultivator  
12' Disc

### Needs

7 shank chisel plow  
3 or 4 bottom plow  
offset disc  
4 row no till planter (like Deere 7000 or similar)  
8' or 10' no till drill  
Forage harvester with hay and corn head  
Mower  
Rake  
Tedder  
Baler  
Round baler (silage special)  
Bale wrapper  
Box grader  
Manure spreader

### Shop Tools Needed

Hoist/Jib crane  
Mechanics tools  
Tractor splitting frame  
Equipment parts

