



Executive Corner



Kimball Shill,
Chief Operating Officer

We should all take a moment to celebrate some of our significant accomplishments as we begin a new quarter. Getting 3,200 hectares planted this spring was a huge accomplishment that required the diligent efforts of every department in the company. Considering we had only 1,512 hectares cleared as of last November, this is a significant accomplishment and a job well done. This accomplishment is that much greater when you consider the level of training achieved by our Ethiopian tractor drivers. In the past, many jobs with our state-of-the-art John Deere equipment required experienced expatriate operators to operate the machinery. This planting, the elite of our Ethiopian tractor drivers achieved the necessary skills to plant and sustain this crop, including ripping, disking, spraying, and planting with the air drills. As we continue to grow, we continue to build capabilities within our workforce and expand our collective sphere of competence.

We also continue to add to our infrastructure in Beltu by making significant progress in completing our silos for grain storage. We expect to have two silos fully operational in time for our harvest, which starts later this month. The remaining two silos will be done shortly thereafter.

On the livestock front, Tsehay, Abera, and their team have finalized the plans to begin construction on a modern dairy facility at Kokosa farm. We expect to break ground in the coming weeks, and we are preparing to import purebred dairy animals from Kenya to provide the foundation for this effort. In the meantime, Abera and his team continue to work on pasture and infrastructure improvement projects to make Kokosa a model of operation. They have also started to host community training and outreach programs to help train local dairy farmers on the best practices so that when we implement our milk processing facility, we will be able to buy milk from the surrounding farms, as well as use all of the milk from our own dairy. In doing this, we build MAI and the community, and everyone wins.

Mekonen and his team are working with seven new farmer-training centers (FTCs) to continue creating awareness of our improved seed varieties and to improve cultural practices with model farmers to create farmer awareness and help whole communities improve the yields that they can expect from their harvests. Meanwhile, Riyad, Miesa, and their teams have made great strides in finding markets for our seeds and continue to build market demand for when we have larger and larger harvests.

We are continuing to look for growth opportunities, including the addition of irrigated land where we can produce our crops faster and more predictably to support food security in Ethiopia.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the professional support from logistics, finance, facilities, and government relations. While we still face many challenges in doing something worthwhile, in hard and often harsh conditions, you should all feel proud of what MAI is accomplishing and your part in making that happen.

Thank you for your efforts and professionalism as we build the greatest company in Ethiopia.

Alyssa Farm

Tony Richards, Agronomist

At the MAI farm in Beltu, all varieties of the crop are up and growing.

Currently, most of the farm has suffered from common root rot, along with three generations of army worms. The root rot has cause the plants to fail to develop a root system sufficient to extract water effectively from the soil. This has reduced the crops' full growth potential. The army worms have the capability to devastate a total field's worth of grain within a day. But, staff on the farm have managed to keep the worms under control and to minimize damage to the majority of the crop.

This season, the rain in Beltu was less than normal. The farm has received just under eight inches of water so far. But, some areas have managed to produce what appears to be a significant crop.

The Jefferson wheat is the fastest crop to mature of all of the wheat varieties.

The safflower crop is proving to be a variable option for future full production. It is able to develop a 12 inch tap root that has appeared to withstand the root disease in the fields, as well as not being damaged heavily by the army worms.

Land clearing has been on hold for this month, so the total land under production is 3,200 hectares, or about 8,000 acres.



Fields are taking shape around the main camp.



Farmers training on Jefferson wheat held in Bale Zone

Menen Tesfaye and Riyad Abdulrazak

The MAI Addis Ababa branch, in collaboration with the Shashemene branch, held a successful training in the Bale Zone for 67 model farmers, four commercial farmers, fifteen development agents and extension experts, and eight zone and woreda agriculture office representatives. A total of 94 participants attended the training program from nine selected woredas in the Bale zone. The woredas selected were Ginir, Raitu, Sewena, Legahida (Beltu), Goro, Dawe Kachan, Dolo Mena, Harena Buluk, and Gura Damolee.

The objectives of the training were to:

- Train and make farmers aware of the cultural practices of Jefferson wheat, as it is a newly introduced variety to them.
- Promote the sales of Jefferson wheat seed in the area.
- Rectify the wrong impression given to some of the farmers and individuals about the performance of Jefferson wheat in the Bale Zone.
- Avoid exaggerated yield expectation and crop performance of Jefferson wheat variety in the Bale Zone.
- Create partnerships with zone and woreda

agricultural and rural development offices for future market expansion and increase sales volume.

- Build image of MAI in respect to objectives, mission, and activities.

The training included:

- Adaptation trials and farming practice of Jefferson wheat.
- How to maintain data on a record sheet on the trial practices by the development agents and agriculture office representatives.
- Marketing - supply of MAI seed, distribution place, price, payment terms and mechanism, future market potential, market link, etc.

The training was given by Ato Riyad Abdulrazak, Ato Mekonnen Geteneh, Ato Meisa Beressa, and Ato Kadir Adem. Similar training programs will be held in the Bale Zone at the woreda level, as well as in the East and West Harar Zone, in line with the next harvest and production schedule. Ideally, this will help to expand market territory and increase sales volume, in addition to training the local farmers.



School Farm & FTC

Mekonen Geteneh, Shashamene Project Director

There has been no new progress at the School Farm or FTC since last month.



Kokosa

Mulugeta Tesfaye, Kokosa Farm Manager

Barn construction in Kokosa has not begun, yet. There are currently 37 calves and two cows on the farm. At the moment, there is no milk production.

Congratulations Paul!

On Thursday, June 23, Ernst & Young held an awards gala in Salt Lake City for the presentation of the 2011 Entrepreneur of the Year Award for the Utah Region. According to the Ernst & Young website, "Awards are given to entrepreneurs who demonstrate extraordinary success in the areas of innovation, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities."

Our President, Paul Morrell, was the recipient of this year's award. This is a prestigious and well deserved award. It reflects the vision, dedication, commitment, professionalism, knowledge, and respect for others that Paul shows us every day.

Our most sincere congratulations go out to Paul and his family at this time for celebration and recognition. It was well deserved. All of us at MAI are pleased and proud to be associated with Paul.

We appreciate him personally, and we respect his leadership and vision.

Congratulations!!
Your MAI Team

Happenings in Africa

- Ethiopia has begun building a dam on the Nile in the country's west. Once completed, it will be the largest dam in Africa, generating 5,250 megawatts.
- Lower than expected rainfall between April and June has led to a severe drought in the Horn of Africa, which includes Ethiopia, Somalia, Eritrea and Djibouti, and is affecting almost nine million people. As farmers lose their livelihood, widespread hunger is gripping the region. The United Nations' World Food Program is working to respond to this crisis.
- In the last several weeks, a surge of tens of thousands of refugees, fleeing the violence in Somalia, moved across the border into Kenya to join camps already full of people.
- The five-month long civil war continues in Libya. Rebels continue to gain and lose land, making the conflict's outcome hard to predict at this point. There have been no American casualties.
- The US intends to open talks to build contacts with Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood, a sign of American concern that the conservative Islamic group is now becoming one of the most important political forces in Egypt.
- The Security Council has extended the 19,000-strong U.N. peacekeeping force present in the Congo for another year, despite the wish of the Congo's minister for international and regional cooperation that the force be gradually withdrawn.
- Moroccans voted to approve a referendum on constitutional reforms that, once in place, will weaken the king's powers and boost those of the government.

Visibility Corner

Quicklist

1. Create a passenger profile.
2. Always know when your Traveler's passport expires.
3. Keep your Traveler's profile updated.
4. Keep records of the names and addresses for all international offices.

Don't wait until the last minute...

Rotation Calendar

We have a working rotation calendar. Please inform Nohamit of your planned travel dates. If these dates change for any reason please keep her updated. We use this calendar for many things and it helps when it is current

Name	Jan-Feb	Feb.-Mar	Mar.-April	April - May	May - June	June - Jul	Jul - Aug	Aug - Sept	Sept - Oct	Oct - Nov.	Nov. - Dec.	Dec.- Jan
Paul												
Joe	Green	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black		Green	Green
Wally	Green	Black	Green	Black	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black	Green	Black	Green
Marty	Green	Green	Black	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black	Green
Kimball	Black	Green										
Dennies	Green	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black	Green	Green	
Antony	Green	Green	Black	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black	Green
Perry	Black	Green	Green	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black	Green
Jason	Green	Black										
Nathan	Green	Green	Black	Green	Black	Green						
Loyed	Black	Green	Black	Black	Green	Black	Black	Black	Green	Green	Green	Black
Clair		Black	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black	Green	Green	Green	Black	Green
Max					Green	Black				Green	Black	
Mark	Green	Green	Black	Black	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Black	
Dexter												
Bracken	Black	Black	Black	Green	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black	Green	Green	Black
jim	Green	Black	Black	Green								
Trevor												
Alan		Green	Black									

	Come to ETHIOPIA
	Postponement
	Back to USA

In-and-out Processing

In an effort to smooth out the details of moving in and out of Ethiopia, Nohamit and Menen have implemented a new In & Out Processing Procedure. It allows us to better serve employee needs.

- When we receive your Itinerary you will receive, by e-mail, a Processing form.
- Please fill out the form and return it.
- This information will be used to plan for your arrival and stay in Ethiopia.
- When you arrive please meet with Nohamit and/or Menen and they will:
 - Review the dates and details of immigration documents, rotation schedules, and master calendar inputs.
 - Arrange meetings with Shimelis for communication needs, Akawak for per diem, Alebachew for transportation, and Masresha for housing needs.
 - Ensure you have an MAI badge.

July 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
	Independence Day		Anthony's work permit and resident ID expires			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Mark, Heidi, and Elyn's resident ID and work permit expires	Alan's work permit and resident ID expires		Bracken returns to Ethiopia	Clair's work permit and resident ID expires
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Nathan's work permit and resident ID expires						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trips Renwals Rotations Event Djibouti holidays Ethiopian Holiday 					