



### Human Resources

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Girma Griebel, Human Resource Director

Congratulations to the two MAI employees who have successfully completed their MBA's at Lincoln University, Oakland, USA in October 2011 under the Employee Educational Support Program of Morrell Agro Industries.

Akawak Messele, Account Manager & Minase Abate, Human Resource Generalist



### MAI Educational Support Program

MAI established an Educational Support Program for its staff in 2010. Accordingly, many MAI employees, at different levels of the company, have taken part in this program. This program is believed to primarily benefit MAI employees. It also contributes to the human capital development of the country and the private agricultural sector in particular.

As a result of this program, Akawak Messele, Accounts Manager, and Minase Abate, Human Resource Generalist, from the MAI Addis Office, have graduated from Lincoln University, Oakland, USA with an MBA degree. The Ethiopian Leadership Institute is running this program in collaboration with Lincoln University, Oakland, USA. The HR department congratulates Akawak and Minase on their hard work and achievement on behalf of the EVP office of MAI.

A total of 16 staff members have participated in this MAI program since 2010.

## **Beltu Farm**



Dennis Strong, Beltu Farm Project Director

Most of the workers in Beltu will be taking a holiday the last week in December and the first week in January to spend time with their families and to celebrate Ethiopian Christmas on January 7. So, the farm will be fairly quiet during that time.

### **Wheat Crop**

About 150 hectares of wheat was harvested and stored in silo bags. There are another 35 hectares of “volunteer” wheat that germinated in a field that was ripped but was not planted or fertilized. It did surprisingly well, but it is not quite ready to be harvested yet. It will be harvested when the crew returns to the farm in January. The safflower crop will also be harvested in January.



### **Sprinklers**

Sprinklers are being installed on the farm for soil moisture holding tests that will be performed in January.

### **Next Season**

The plan for the next planting season is still being developed by the team. The planting will begin after the harvest is complete, and the plan will determine which crops and how many hectares will be planted.

### **Silo Progress**

No additional work on the silos was done this month. The staff on the farm is still waiting for some parts in order to finish the loading and unloading systems of the last two silos.

### **Community Schools Project**

The foundation of the school is still being constructed this month.



**Café Waallii**

Café Waallii is the new employee cafeteria building. Wally presented this idea about a year ago, but work has just begun on the project.



**School Farm & FTC**

Mekonen Geteneh, Shashamene Project Director

**Shashamene Annual Production Report**

**2011 School Farm Wheat Production Report**

From the School Farm, 81 quintals of Jefferson wheat was harvested from 4.5 hectares. The combine measurer showed an average of 18 quintals per hectare as the wheat was being harvested. This wasn't quite as according to plan, as the land was covered for two years by alfalfa plants. The alfalfa roots were very long and it was very difficult to plow the compacted soil. The land will be good this year, though. If the wheat is sold at 750 birr/quintal, then it can bring in a total of 60,750 birr that can be used for next year's seed.



**2011 FTC and School Farm Horticulture Production Report**

On the FTC Farm, 39 quintals of potatoes were harvested from 0.5 hectares of land.

On the School Farm, 295.3 quintals of potatoes were harvested from 2.25 hectares of land, and 20.33 quintals of haricot beans were harvested from 2 hectares of land.

	<b>Crop Type</b>	<b>Cultivated Area</b>	<b>Yield/Hectare</b>	<b>Total yield</b>
<b>FTC Farm</b>	Potato	0.5	78 qt	39 qt
<b>School Farm</b>	Potato	2.25	131.24 qt	295.3 qt
<b>School Farm</b>	Haricot bean	2	10.17 qt	20.33 qt

## Facilities & Logistics

Mamayenesh Teshome

The Logistics Department has had constant movement when it came to facilitating other departments in their day to day work. One of the major highlights for the Facility Department is, after a careful examination, a tenant has been chosen from ten prospects to lease the open area of the ground floor at the head office. An agreement will be made in the coming days and payment will be submitted to the Finance Department.

During monthly control of the guest house facilities, it was found that several international phone calls had been made. An investigation was conducted of the misuse, and it was concluded with a disciplinary action to be given to the accused staff member. In a related matter, collateral agreements have been signed with Harmony Hotel and Mola Guest House, which will give MAI a 20% discount on all rates and will credit facilities for the guest fleet. In addition, the search for guest house and warehouse alternatives for head office use is in progress.

Some of the routine works include maintenance, gardening, cleaning, guarding services for the head office, guest houses, and warehouse, replacing the door signs for two offices, and assigning office leases to MER and Mr. Mike's project.



*To All MAI Staff*

*You are what makes this company extraordinary.*

*Wishing you an extraordinary Holiday Season!*

*Joe Morrell  
Vice President & Head of Logistics*

## Happenings in Africa

- Ethiopia has recently rejoined the battle against militants in the nearby country of Somalia. They do not plan on staying long, and African Union troops will replace the Ethiopian soldiers in captured areas.
- The Muslim Brotherhood won more than a third of the votes in the lower house of parliament. This will be the first parliament chosen since the uprising that toppled former President Hosni Mubarak.
- Kenya's latest airstrikes killed more than 60 Al-Shabaab militants in the on-going fighting in Somalia.
- About 45 civilians were massacred in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, in an area still troubled more than eight years after the end of the war.
- Mali's government has announced plans to distribute 40,000 tons of food in emergency aid to drought victims and those lacking food security.
- Lower than expected grain harvests may rise food prices in southern Africa, while East Africa continues to suffer from a food crisis.
- The U.S. has lifted restrictions on defense sales to the young nation of South Sudan.