

Introduction: February 2025 was a month of progress, resilience, and learning across our farms. From productive harvests and strategic expansions to overcoming weather challenges, our team remains committed to growth, sustainability, and nurturing future agricultural leaders.



Twalima Farm: Green beans production has continued smoothly, with both runner and dwarf varieties performing well. Encouraged by this progress, we have already begun planning for the next planting cycle, anticipating another successful harvest. Given the heavy rains of 2025, we have intensified our field scouting, soil, and water analysis to gain a deeper understanding of our farm environment. This will help us refine our farming practices for better efficiency and productivity.

We were honored to host Bob from Lifesong Canada. Despite his tight schedule, his visit was a great encouragement to the team. That same month, students from Lifesong High School visited the farm and participated in hands-on activities, which is part and parcel of the **Discipleship** training. We hope to see some of them pursue careers in agriculture, becoming future agronomists. Additionally, one of our student interns, who joined us in January, has shown great promise and has been entrusted with more responsibilities as a supervisor-intraining for our small groundnut field. Our goal remains to develop



future leaders from within Lifesong, particularly among our student graduates. **Mumba Price** one of the students says it in his own words as follows:" It has been always a good idea of training us in agricultural skills even though we are still in school. We really appreciate the management for introducing us to this program. We have learnt a lot of things such as time management, hardworking, being submissive to the leaders we are working with as well as the fellowship we had among others."

Berry Farm: The gooseberry field has seen expansion, with five new rows planted and additional planting planned for March. In the strawberry field, tunnel construction is ongoing, and the plants continue to yield a good harvest. However, plant uprooting is scheduled for end of March to prepare for the new season. The raspberry field has delivered strong harvests, and we expect this trend to continue.





There have been some challenges, particularly in the strawberry field. Anthracnose disease has affected production, but our agronomist and spray team are actively addressing the issue. Additionally, the plastic coverings on strawberry tunnels, installed five years ago, have deteriorated due to rain and wind. Plans are in place to replace them soon.



Lifesong Nursery: Onion seedlings grown for Twalima Farm are progressing well, and the packaging facility is nearly complete. Construction has also begun on a new structure for hardening seedlings. February was a successful month, as we managed to fulfill 100% of our lettuce orders. However, we have faced challenges with black root disease affecting red cabbages and broccoli in open fields.





Lifesong Hope Coffee Farm: Consistent rainfall, a new fertilizer program, and additional fungicide spraying have contributed to healthy berry development ahead of the harvest. Slashing and weeding continue to be the primary tasks during this rainy season. Meanwhile, our new field supervisor, Biggie, has shown strong leadership and work ethic, quickly integrating into the farm team.



Gratitude & Outlook: As we move forward, our focus remains on improving efficiency, overcoming challenges, and fostering future agricultural leaders. With strong foundations and strategic planning, we are optimistic about sustained growth and success in the coming months.

Stay Blessed

Anton Gneva



www.lifesongcanada.org

