



VOLUME #33

SONOP NEWSLETTER

APRIL & MAY 2022

NEWS FROM RAMANSDRIFT and STAMPRIET

With a few years of trials in different planting time slots and areas, Sonop is very excited to see how the plan comes together in order to guarantee consistent customer satisfaction. We have asked the production managers to give us some insight of their farms at the moment.

STAMPRIET: The Stampriet area went through a difficult time with draught the past couple of years but were blessed with a good rainy season this year. Although this area is known for its cattle and sheep farming the vegetable produce, especially tomato is showing great potential because the soil is very good in retaining water.

Stampriet had a good season that ended March and breaking down of previous orchards and soil preparation for, the new season, has already started. We will plant Tomatoes and Peppers later this year.

Willem de Jager



RAMANSDRIFT:

With Sonop's new strategy at Ramansdrift the planting has started early this year. The tomatoes are doing above expectation and we are confident that the season ahead will be a fruitful harvest.

Top pruning is an ongoing action for stimulation of the plant to deliver more fruit and helps the plant to produce better quality tomatoes.

The lucerne production is decreasing due to the upcoming winter. But is still an ongoing proses on the farm.

Louis le Grange

Thank you Louis and Willem for you and your team's hard work in producing such excellent Sonop veggies in the remote locations.



SONOP ONIONS

With the onion crop from Ramansdrift our "old" onion packing machine were put to good use once again. Some changes were needed and Mornè van Zyl and his team repaired and installed the machine at Oranje Vallei shed.

For the first time in a few years Sonop are now again able to have onions in our crop portfolio.



WELCOME to SONOP

On Saturday, 30 April 2022 at 9:36 Jaco and Ilana Oosthuizen welcomed a baby boy of 2.74kg and 46cm in length.

Although there was initially a bit of a confusion regarding the name ☺ it was decided that he will be named Jacques Oosthuizen.

(God is Gracious)

Congratulations Jaco and Ilana — We hope that Jacques will be a bundle of joy !



Middle of April Sonop welcomed Braam Louw from Grunau area. He joined Chris and Lua in the packhouse team and were introduced to tomato and pepper packing since day one.

As Albert said at the introduction: "this is Braam's first encounter with work"

Welcome Braam to the Sonop Family and we all hope you will be very happy here in Noordoewer.



NGGA Training



Callie Calitz and Klement Ngoma had training at Aussenkehr in April. Mr. Gawie van der Merwe the course leader provided all the NGGA stakeholders with Agra Vocational Training. The 4 day course served as a guideline to understanding of concepts in Viticulture as a science in growing grapes.



CONGRATULATIONS EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



SESILIA NGHIKAMBE (MAY) & NDAPANDA IMENE (APRIL)
MODDERDRIF —TOMATO TEAM RAMANSDRIFT—TOMATO TEAM
 Congratulations and thank you for your hard work.
 We are very proud of you.

BIRTHDAYS

ELLA VAN DER MERWE	03 JUNE
LINDA CALITZ	22 JUNE
CHRISTINA TOOISPAN	23 JUNE
HANNES VAN DEN HEEVER	25 JUNE
JURGENS TWYMAN	26 JUNE
LIZE VAN DEN HEEVER	28 JUNE
BERTUS HAITEMBU	03 JULY
MATTHEW LEONARD	06 JULY
WILNA BRANDT	08 JULY
CHRISSIE DE REBEIRA	10 JULY
ALBERT VAN DER MERWE	14 JULY
MARAIS VAN DER MERWE	14 JULY
MANUEL DE REBEIRA (SNR)	18 JULY
MARIE VAN DER MERWE	19 JULY
ANDREAS NDUMBA	28 JULY
REINHOLD MWENGO	31 JULY



Sonop Office's— Farm Visit



On 13 April the Sonop office personnel visited the vegetables Fields. All the new and old faces were very excited to see what is happening outside in the fields. Once again it was an incredible experience to see how amazing mother nature grows and develop in different stages.

The farm visit to the different managers were very informative. We started at Kieta's new plantings where **Stoffel Briers** told us about the crucial importance of maintaining healthy soil and how important correct irrigation practices are to preserve and protect the environment and soil.

The 2# stop was the Nethouses at Oranje Valleï where **Willie vd Heever** showed us the Pepper plantings and all the stages of the different orchards that were planted on different dates. Amazing to see the growth in just 2 or 3 weeks time.

Fun fact: 16 000 to 20 000 Pepper seedlings are planted per Hectare on Sonop.



We also visited the weather station at the butternut's orchard. This was very informative to learn that they collect all the weather data and then use this technology in their discission making to best manage water needs.



Zjacques v Niekerk showed us the Sontomini tomatoes, while he was explaining the bunches and layers we were all "sampling" the fresh, crunchy, beautiful cocktail tomatoes 😊 .. And they were yummy!!

Thank you to all the Managers for showing us your orchards. The fields looks promising and we are excited to see the product coming to the packhouse. We can see your teams hard work on display in the fields—THANK YOU



Get to Know Romanzo de Klerk

Place of birth: Windhoek

Favourite food: Pap & "Vleis"

Favourite colour: Red

When did you start working at Sonop? 01.02.2021

Position at Sonop? Welder & Maintenance

Your Favourite Sonop produce? Butternut

Who is your role model in the Sonop team? Willie vd Heever

Your wish for Sonop Farms: That the farm will last long and provide more jobs to us and future generations.

What motivate you to work harder: My Grandmom, 4 children and my Mom.

