

Forest Fruit & Forage for Farm Families

Country: Ethiopia

Category: Development and Relief

Project number: 92235

Need May 2010: \$26,705



A boy sits on a pile of partially sawn lumber before the sawmill was shutdown.

↙ This project is providing a better life for farm families through improved nutrition and a reduction in poverty for the Awi people at Injibara in northern Ethiopia. Project staff work with farmers and government agriculturalists to identify and propagate local plants to be used for food, animal forage, firewood and other needs. Trials are also conducted on non-local plants that have the potential to yield useful products.

↙ Update from Project Manager, Mark MacLachlan, March 2010.

In the last update we shared about sawmill and the effect that it was having on the local community. We were pleased with the progress of the sawmill, as it was making good lumber by the young men that we trained. However it has now stopped production due to a disagreement within the cooperative that is running the machine. The Government officials are urging us to do all we can so this valuable resource for the community can again be used for useful production of lumber in the countryside.

While one area is in decline another continues to grow and produce fruit.

Training continues to be a major focus with many local farm fami-

lies continuing to ask for help in pruning and grafting. We supply trained farmers to help when needed. Furthermore ten farm families received training in vegetables and nutrition. Fruit training was given to 67 farm family members from Awi Zone, as well as for 23 farmers that visited our site who were from East Gojjam. We also held training for development agents from the three local districts which are our focal area. Each of the participants in the training had opportunity to receive past copies of the CHEBA newsletter. Sixteen copies of the booklet *Planting Tree Crops*, in Amharic, were distributed to participants of the workshop.



The relief and development fund of SIM Australia www.sim.org.au
PO Box 42 Penshurst NSW 2222 Tel: (02) 8568 8890
ABN 43 484 030 223

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Contact: Juanita Manahan - Project Promotions Manager simaid@sim.org.au