



'Towards climate-resilient dairy production in Southern Zambia'

G-FEAST training workshop - 2-5 March 2021

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G-FEAST field practice exercise: Batoka Cooperative Society, Choma, Southern Zambia

03 March 2021



RESEARCH
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Preparations for field work ...





G-FEAST teams

Team A (Women)	Team B (Women)	Team C (Men)	Team D (Men)
Lucy Choonde	Beatrice Mwilima	Hayongo Hamanjanji	Jasper Ngandu
Christopher Sibajane	Nchimunya Mulindi	Patrick Ngonga	Mate Buumba
Hagulu Janika	Lauraine Mwansa	Getrude Tembo	Memory Mubita



G-FEAST exercises attendance



<u>Team</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Number of farmers</u>
A	Women	16
B	Women	18
C	Men	14
D	Men	0 (lack of farmers to interview)*

* Trainee facilitators were distributed to other teams



Arriving for G-FEAST at Batoka cooperative society

Batoka Cooperative Society!



Here we arrive!!



Beautiful scenery and weather in Batoka!



Team A: What worked well

- Discussing with farmers in “gendered” groups enabled them to be open in expressing their ideas
- The more we did the exercise the more we became conversant with the work ahead of us
- Facilitation and managing of farmers expectations was good
- Good command of the local Tonga language



Team B: Main challenges

- Interviews for women require a lot more consideration regarding personal conveniences—notably for those caring for young children during the interview
- Farmers should not be kept for a long time as they lose concentration
- The rainfall disrupted the discussion as we were sitting outside





Team B: What worked well

- Good farmer participation
- Farmers were cooperative and committed in answering questions despite the long duration of the process
- Farmers understood questions asked and could provide answers better than we had expected
- Teamwork was very good: collaboration between facilitators, time keepers and note-takers
- Use of colored cards to gauge farmer responses and ensure inclusivity in responses was very useful.

Team B: Main challenges



- Generating the right probing questions in order to get clear answers to question being addressed
 - It took time for the farmers to reach consensus over some items
 - Women farmers could not provide accurate details on land ownership issues
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Team C: What worked well

- All farmers had an opportunity to respond. This made them more confident in participating in the discussions
- Farmers respected ground rules provided
- We learnt a lot of things from the farmers that we did not know



Team C: Main challenges



- The farmers do not weigh their animals, so they don't have an idea about weights for different animal age categories
- Questionnaire had not yet been internalized, hence interview process took long
- Some information required in questions was “lost in translation”
- Group discussions began late because farmers arrived at venues late

Team A at work! Individual interviews



Memory Mubita (left) conducting individual interview



Jasper Ngandu (right) conducting individual interview



Michael Musonda (right) conducting individual interview



Lucy Choonde (right) conducting individual interview



Team B at work! Individual interviews



Mate Buumba (left) conducting individual interview



Beatrice Mwilima (left) conducting individual interview



Laurine Mwansa (left) conducting individual interview



Team C at work! Individual interviews



Patrick Ngonga (left) conducting individual interview



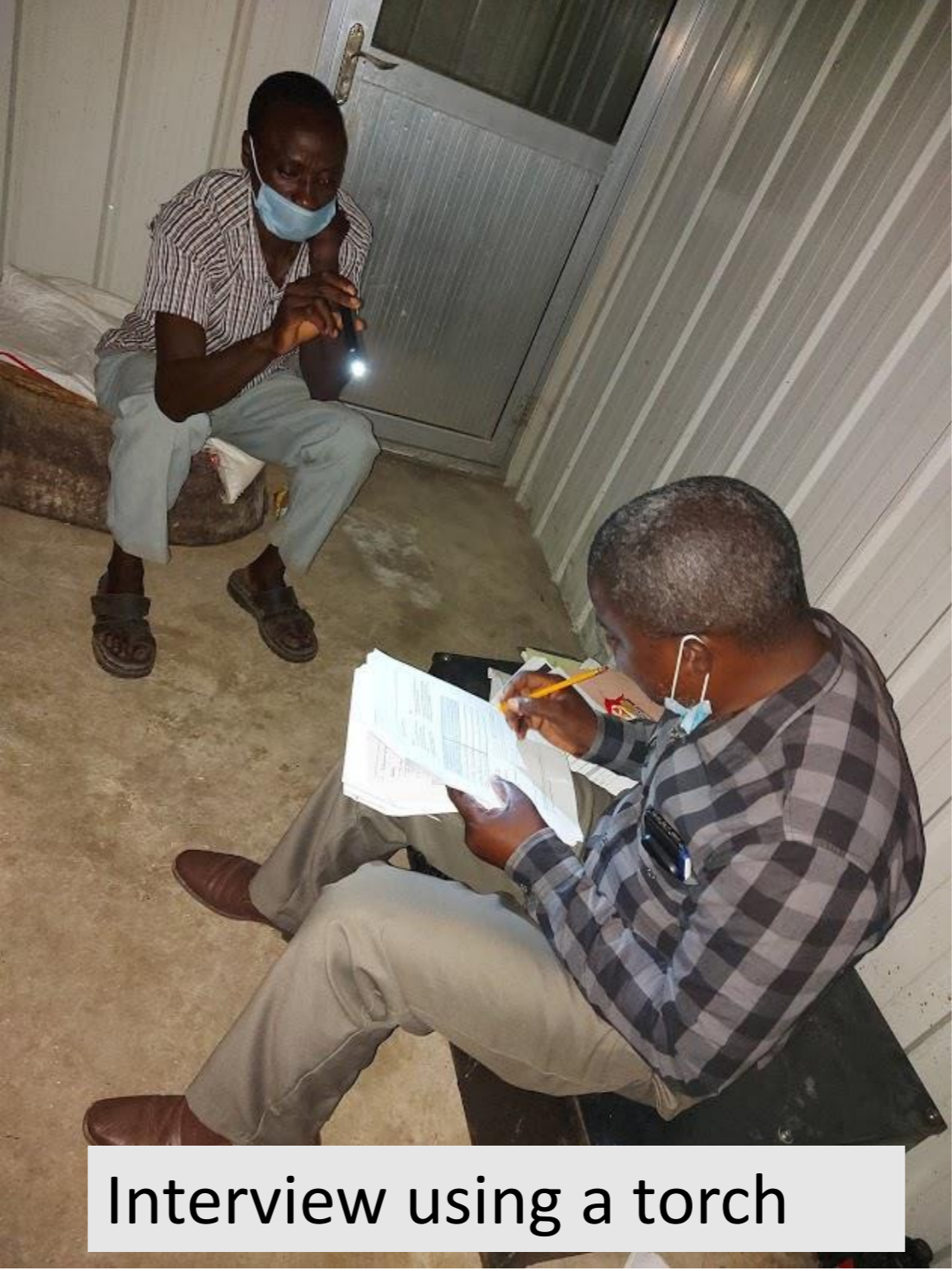
Hayongo Hamanjanji (left) conducting individual interview



Gertrude Tembo (left) conducting individual interview

Practises you should avoid...

Completing two individual questionnaires at a time



Interview using a torch



Standing over FGD participants. Sit amongst them and listen



A third-party listens into the individual interview

Leading by example ... Noah on it! Field supervisor's reflections.

- Time management for the focus group discussions was a challenge and this impacted on time for the individual questionnaires
- Facilitators should avoid dwelling on questions for a long time. They should help farmers arrive at consensus quickly



Reflections from the team

- Facilitators needed a clearer understanding of the G-FEAST tool to relate to responses and ask probing questions adequately
- Interviews for women require a lot more consideration regarding personal conveniences—notably for those caring for young children
- Facilitators need to learn to adapt energizer activities to keep farmers engaged in discussions



Key findings from the exercise...

- Most farmers in the area are in a “middle age group” in terms of farming experience.
- Feed is not the major challenge in the area.
- Knowledge in animal health and management and water is a top priority for farmers.
- Farmers lack information on general dairy management practices.
- Very few farmers have exotic breeds of cattle.
- Farmers were willing to pay to access bull mating services from their neighbors.

Key findings from the exercise...

- Farmers in the area take a keen interest in milk production and practicing milk hygiene.
- Farmers would like to have training on signs and symptoms of different diseases and some clarity on expected treatment required.
- Traditional medicine is commonly used and is perceived to be quite effective.

Next steps

- A schedule for conducting the G-FEAST exercise was discussed by the team and outlined as below

	Date	District	G-FEAST site	G-FEAST group by gender
Group A				
Jasper, Mate and Memory	08-Mar	Mazabuka	Magoye	Women
	09-Mar	Mazabuka	Munjile	Men
	10-Mar	Monze	Kaumba	Women
	11-Mar	Monze	Keemba	Males
	15-Mar	Choma	Batoka	Males
Group B				
Beatrice, Nchimunya and Lauraine	08-Mar	Choma	Masopo	Men
	09-Mar	Choma	Mutandalike	Women
	10-Mar	Choma	Bwacha	Men
	11-Mar	Choma	Central	Women
Group C				
Hayongo, Nganga and Getrude	08-Mar	Zimba	Luyaba	Men
	09-Mar	Zimba	Zimba Central	Women
	10-Mar	Kalomo	Bbelo	Men
	11-Mar	Kalomo	Kalomo central	Women
Group D				
Lucy, Christipher and Hagilu	08-Mar	Namwala	Kabulamwanda	Females
	09-Mar	Namwala	Nchole	Males
	10-Mar	Namwala	Niko	Females
	11-Mar	Namwala	Chitong	Males

Many thanks for your efforts!



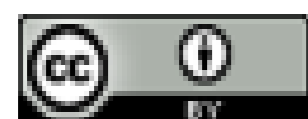


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