



Bountiful Harvests (1)



Dec 2021





**Bountiful
Harvests
(2)**

**Dec
2021**





Creature Feature



Dec 2021





The team on their many adventures!

Hat's off to David, who finished his stay with us this month!



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Nivassi
Training
Program!



Dec 2021



**Nivassi
Training
Program (2)**



Dec 2021





Abundance! Ayote vines climbing the JK mesh. Our baby mielequilla banana is growing up! Healthy purple corn. Rosa de Jamaica just starting to flower.



A volunteer bitter melon plant with its bright flesh and seeds. And healthy yucca plants with their beautiful star-shaped leaves!

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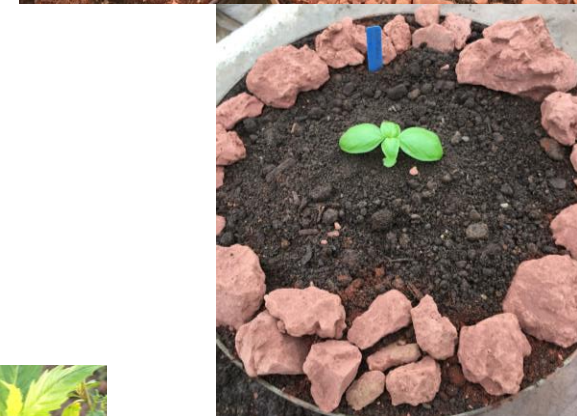


Herb adventures! We discovered that oregano could grow outside in the rain! This opened some big pots for our dry season herb experiments. We are attempting to find the perfect sunny, warm spot for herb growing. We are even trying some in the first room of the solar dryer! So far, so good!



When we removed the oregano from the pot, we found very interesting roots structures, including some well-established dollar weed!

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We also discovered that the small **birds**, that get in and out of the greenhouses, love to **eat** the seeds of the **buckwheat** microgreens! They completely feasted on this week's batch!





Insects and fungus!



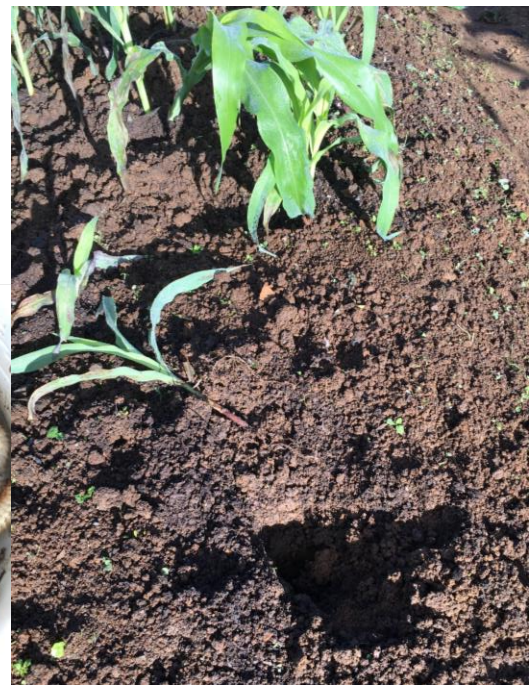
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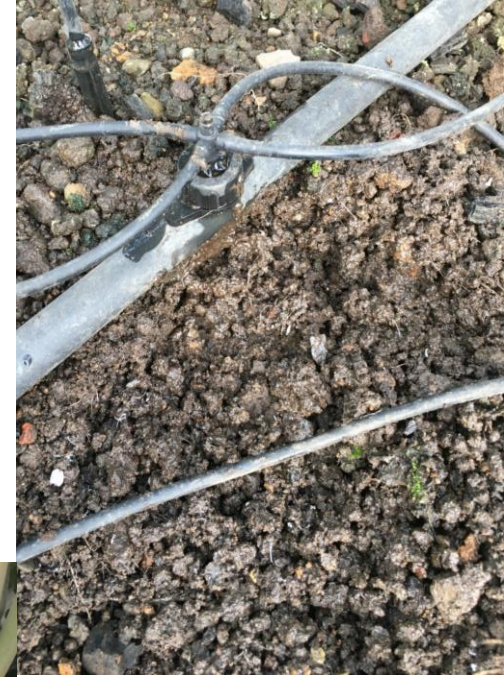


Interesting Anomalies:

Unusual root growth. Pizotes digging up a corn patch, possibly looking for jobotos, which potentially caused the loss of several scallion roots that we had replanted. And interesting nests of cuiscana, fire ants and their eggs!

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Big bamboo harvest during the ebbing moon phase. Hopefully this will help the bamboo last longer. We're still observing some minimal bat damage on our ripe bananas.

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And a **leaking irrigation** hose caused overly wet conditions for this broccoli that rotted from the stem up!



Greenhouse Projects:

We remixed the soil in several of the shallow growing beds in Al-Kauthar. The result left the beds renewed and fresh, ready for planting!



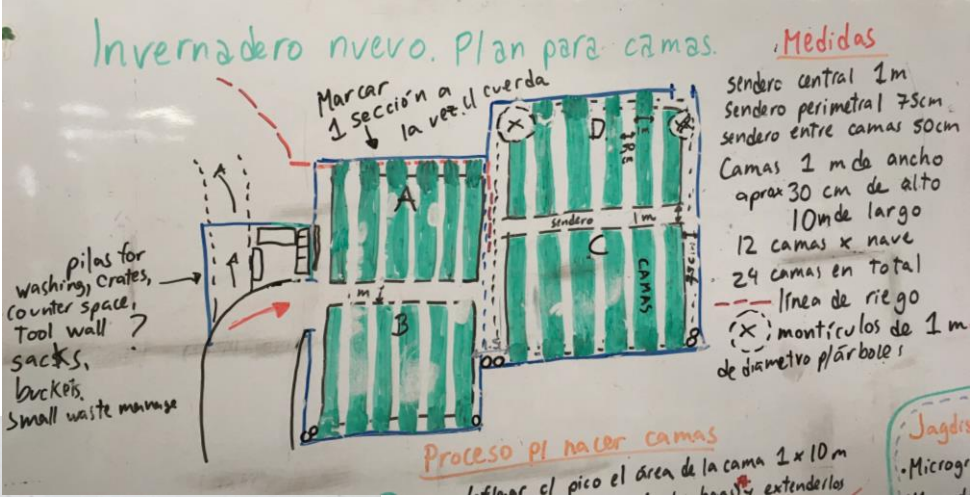
Also, we grew the first production round of the Blue Lake Bush green beans from the heirloom varieties we saved seeds from earlier this year! And a very promising sweet potato poking its head out of the soil!



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Greenhouse Projects (2): Much needed pruner care. Schematic that helped us prepare JK. Shovel organization. And a leaky valve in Svarga.



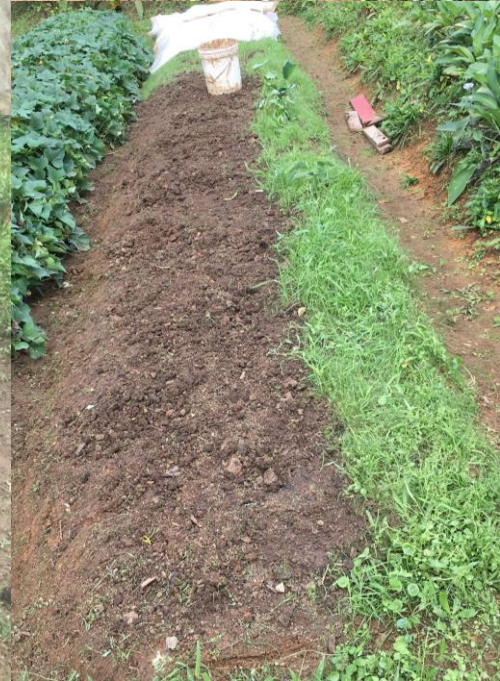
A huge piece of shiny new black plastic that will help our composting efforts. And a big slash in the plastic roof that needs repair!

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Svarga works:
Continued
bed
development,
drainage
improvement,
bed/plant
care, drying
out beds by
covering in
plastic, and
on-site
compost
piles!



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Successful Seed Saving! We knew the cucs were sufficiently mature when the vine was dry, and one fell off and cracked open during the night! We also seeded our next generation of Golden Russian cucs, from the seeds we saved earlier in the year!

The beautiful bright pink and tangy **San Miguel flowers** have finished up their season, but leave these red bases, where the flowers had been..

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Great for
Christmas
decorations!



Merry Christmas! We celebrate with treats and music to show gratitude for such a great year of such amazing teamwork and perseverance!

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