



# **Blackfordby College of Agriculture**

## **DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURE – (Part Time programme)**

**Accredited with the Ministry of Higher & Tertiary Education,  
Innovation, Science and Technology Development**

### **PROSPECTUS GADPT03 September 2023 Intake**

#### **BACKGROUND**

Blackfordby College of Agriculture was founded in 1974 (then as the Tobacco Training Institute) by members of the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association. One day seminars for farmers were introduced in 1976, followed by the inauguration of a tobacco diploma course in 1977. Following diversification out of tobacco by most commercial farmers, the Diploma in General Agriculture programme was introduced in 2000, which is currently the main course offered by Blackfordby. The college is situated on Klein Kopjes Farm in Concession, Mazowe District, Zimbabwe.

#### **Our Mission**

To develop and offer world class formal agricultural training programmes to the farming community, with emphasis on the commercial aspects of farm management and achievement of sustainable practices through implementation of proficient farming techniques

#### **Our Vision**

To be a leading professional agricultural college committed to excellence

#### **Our Motto**

*Spes in Agricultura*, which means “Hope in Agriculture”

#### **DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURE (2 Years Part Time)**

The diploma programme consists of four **compulsory** disciplines namely Animal Production, Crop Production, Farm Mechanisation and Farm & Agribusiness Management – there is no specialization.

Applicants will be expected to have reasonable practical hands-on experience in a relevant agricultural setting as there is no provision for farm or agro-industrial attachment on this programme.

Teaching and learning will take place largely via virtual digital platforms including but not limited to Google Classroom, Zoom and WhatsApp. Field practicals, farm visits and limited face to face tuition will be undertaken on Saturdays only.

Each semester will consist of sixteen (16) weeks, and the provisional calendar is as follows:

Semester 01	September 2023 to February 2024
Semester 02	March 2024 to August 2024
Semester 03	September 2024 to February 2025
Semester 04	March 2025 to August 2025

**Crop Production:** Tobacco Production, Soil Science, Botany, Weed Science, Summer Crops, Crop Protection, Principles of Horticulture, Winter Crops, Plantation Crops, Floriculture & Post Harvest Handling of Horticultural Crops

**Animal Production:** Animal Health, Animal Nutrition, Beef Production, Pig Production, Dairy Production, Poultry Production, Sheep & Goats Production

**Farm & Agribusiness Management:** Land Use Planning, Geographic Information Systems & Remote Sensing, Agricultural Economics, Farm Budgeting, Farm & Agribusiness Mgt, Accounting, Labour Management, Agricultural Marketing, Agricultural Extension

**Farm Mechanisation:** Irrigation & Water Management, Tractor Power, Tillage Systems, Machinery Management, Energy Studies, Farm Machinery I & II, Soil & Water Conservation, Agricultural Surveying

**Projects:** a) Farm Business Planning Project  
b) Crop Protection (Weeds & Insects) Project

### Entry Requirements

Minimum admission requirements for the Diploma in General Agriculture (Part Time) programme are:

- At least five (5) Ordinary Level passes including English, Maths and a Science subject (Grade C or better)
- Prior farming or any relevant work experience is a must.
- Mature students only

### College Fees (*provisional, subject to review*)

Application Fee (Once off, non refundable)	US\$30
General Purpose Fee (Once off, non refundable)	US\$150
Tuition Fees per Semester ( <i>Semesters 01, 02 &amp; 03</i> )	US\$1,500
Tuition Fees ( <i>Semester 04 – Projects</i> )	US\$750
Graduation Fee	US\$90

- *College Board reserves the right to review fee levels as may be deemed necessary in line with prevailing business conditions in Zimbabwe*

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Candidates may request for enrolment forms via Email or WhatsApp. Kindly forward completed application form to the Principal's Office:

Email                                admin@blackfordby.co.zw  
   [agfordby@mweb.co.zw](mailto:agfordby@mweb.co.zw)

WhatsApp                            +263 772 887 370

**Or**                                        Apply in person at Blackfordby College, Concession

*Note: For all applications made via Email or WhatsApp, original copies to be submitted during Registration*

## **COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION**

Blackfordby College of Agriculture is run by an independent professional Management Board, under the auspices of the Blackfordby Trust. The College Principal oversees the day-to-day affairs of the college with assistance from departmental heads. The Farm runs semi-autonomously as a training and commercial production entity under the supervision of the Farm Manager.

### **Trustees**

Mr. N. Swanepoel (Chairman)  
Mr. E. Mlambo  
Mr. H. Orphanides

### **Board of Management**

Dr. Andrew Matibiri (Chairman) – CEO Zimbabwe Agricultural Society  
Dr. Susan Dimbi – Executive Director (Research), Tobacco Research Board  
Mr. Moses Kurenjekwa – Managing Director, Ecobank  
Ms. Rufaro Samhungu – Human Resources Manager, Irvine's Zimbabwe  
Mr. Moses Suluma – Principal, Blackfordby College of Agriculture

### ***Directions to Blackfordby College (Klein Kopjes Farm)***

*From Westgate (Harare), proceed along Lomagundi Road past Gwebi College of Agriculture to Nyabira Business Centre (at approx. 33km peg). Turn right into gravel road and drive for approximately 30km. Look for a Blackfordby sign, turn right and drive for a further 4km into the campus.*

*9<sup>th</sup> May 2023*