



# **Blackfordby College of Agriculture**

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

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

### **PROSPECTUS GAD27 May 2024 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 Full Time)**

##### **Programme Highlights**

-  Thrust on practical commercial farming & entrepreneurship
-  Multi-cultural environment
-  Occasional lectures with experts from industry
-  Wide recognition within SADC region
-  Single room occupancy
-  On-the-job training (attachment) on productive farms

The full-time diploma programme consists of four compulsory disciplines namely Animal Production, Crop Production, Farm Mechanisation and Farm &

Agribusiness Management. The course is done in three taught trimesters, followed by a one year farm or agro-industrial attachment.

### Trimester 01

Animal Production	<i>Animal Health, Animal Nutrition</i>
Crop Production	<i>Tobacco Production, Soil Science, Botany, Weed Science</i>
Farm Management	<i>Land Use Planning, Agricultural Economics</i>
Farm Mechanisation	<i>Irrigation &amp; Water Management, Agricultural Tractors, Tillage Systems &amp; Machinery Management</i>

### Trimester 02

Animal Production	<i>Beef Production, Pig Production</i>
Crop Production	<i>Summer Crops, Crop Protection, Principles of Horticulture</i>
Farm Management	<i>Farm Budgeting, Farm &amp; Agribusiness Mgt, Accounting</i>
Farm Mechanisation	<i>Farm Machinery I, Soil &amp; Water Conservation</i>

### Trimester 03

Animal Production	<i>Dairy Production, Poultry Production, Sheep &amp; Goats Production</i>
Crop Production	<i>Winter Crops, Plantation Crops, Floriculture &amp; Post Harvest Handling</i>
Farm Management	<i>Labour Management, Agricultural Marketing, Agricultural Extension</i>
Farm Mechanisation	<i>Energy Systems, Farm Machinery II</i>

### **Entry Requirements**

Minimum admission requirements for the Diploma in General Agriculture 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 an added advantage
- Below 40 years of age

### **GAD27 Academic Calendar**

Year 01	Trimester 01	May 2024 – August 2024
	Trimester 02	September 2024 – December 2024
	Trimester 03	January 2025 – April 2025
Year 02	Projects	May 2025 – August 2025
	Industrial Attachment	September 2025 – May 2026
	Graduation	June 2026

### **College Fees**

Application Fee (Once off, non refundable)	US\$20
General Purpose Fee (Once off, non refundable)	US\$350
Tuition + Boarding Fees per Trimester	US\$2,350
Year 02 Agro-Industrial Attachment Fee	US\$1,800
Graduation Fee	US\$150

### Notes

- *College Board reserves the right to review fee levels as may be deemed necessary in line with prevailing business and economic conditions in Zimbabwe*
- *All students stay on campus, there are no day scholars*

### 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 (cc agfordby@iwayafrica.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)

Dr. Susan Dimbi

Ms. Rufaro Samhungu

Mr. Moses Suluma (Principal)

#### ***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.*

***1<sup>st</sup> February 2024***