

MA20E DISTRICT

CHIWESHE RESERVE

KRAAL APPRECIATION REPORT:



OVERALL PICTURE:

164 kraals on the map  
Levy's?

Estimated population	33,300
Number of kraal heads	171
Number of taxpayers	8,320
Number of adult resident males	3,990
Percentage of taxpayers	48%
Estimated average density of population per square mile	101

39/km<sup>2</sup>

Total area of reserve	85,463h.	211,180 ac.
Estimated wasteland	12,140h.	30,000 "
Estimated usable	73,323h.	181,180 "

84,000 in 1966

Total cultivated acreage	24,084h.	59,512 "
Percentage of usable		33%
Acreage of wet lands and gardens	3,257h.	8,049 ac.
Arable land uncultivated		Nil
Total estimated arable potential	14,164	35,000 "
Percentage of usable		19.3%

Potential arable less than cult.

*cultivators (Johnson)*

Total number of land holders	5,480
Percentage of taxpayers	66%
Total land holders with stock	4,130
Percentage of land holders	75%
Total land holders without stock	1,350
Percentage of land holders	25%
Number of female land holders	788
Percentage of land holders	14%
Female land holders with stock	374
Percentage of female land holders	47%
Female land holders without stock	414
Percentage of female land holders	53%

Estimated acreage required for allocation to present land holders	
at 6 acres standard holding	32,406
at 8 acres standard holding	43,208
Estimated surplus for return to grazing	
at 6 acres standard holding	27,106
at 8 acres standard holding	16,304

Number of stock owners	4,368
Percentage of taxpayers	52%
Total stock owners without land for cultivation	238
Percentage of stock owners	5.5%

also calves 2,322

Animal units declared	19,297
Total cattle	18,410
Average number of animal units	
per stock owner	4.4
per land holder	3.5
per taxpayer	2.3

Arable land uncultivated  
 Total estimated arable potential 14,164 35,000 "  
 Percentage of usable 19.3%

*poten + arable  
 less than  
 cult*

*cultivators (Johnson)*

Total number of land holders 5,480  
 Percentage of taxpayers 66%  
 Total land holders with stock 4,130  
 Percentage of land holders 75%  
 Total land holders without stock 1,350 )  
 Percentage of land holders 25% )  
 Number of female land holders 788 )  
 Percentage of land holders 14% )  
 Female land holders with stock 374  
 Percentage of female land holders 47%  
 Female land holders without stock 414 )  
 Percentage of female land holders 53% )

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 Percentage of taxpayers 52%  
 Total stock owners without land *for cultivation* 238  
 Percentage of stock owners 5.5%

*also calves  
 2,322*

Animal units declared 19,297  
 Total cattle 18,410  
 Average number of animal units  
 per stock owner 4.4  
 per land holder 3.5  
 per taxpayer 2.3  
 Present ratio of animal units to  
 cultivated acreage 1:3.1  
 Present grazing density 1:6.3  
 Assessed carrying capacity 18,200

2/Land...

2. LAND:

Situation: approximately 40 miles due north of Salisbury.

Extent: approximately 30 miles from northern boundary to southern boundary, and 13 miles from eastern boundary to western boundary. Area 211,180 acres.

Topography: the southern third of the reserve consists of gently undulating country, interspersed with scattered kopjes, and with a fairly extensive area of hilly country towards the centre and east. The central portion of the reserve is mainly undulating with scattered high kopjies. The northern portion is very hilly, almost mountainous country, interspersed with small areas of undulating land.

Boundaries:

North: from Rumanzi beacon straight to Chaona beacon.

East: Chaona beacon to S.E. Beacon of Lawley's Concession, then east along Lawley's Concession southern boundary to Ruia river. Up Ruia river to N.W. beacon of Lagnaha Farm. Then European farms Lagnaha, Dunaverty, Chomkuti, Brockley, Makoni and Duntarvie.

South: European farms Truro, Moorfields, Bell Rock, The Birch, Mari Phumbi, Sunridge, Villa Franca, Pasidza, No. 33, No. 22, Mazamba and Ndiri East.

West: European farms Banff, Tekke, Arda, Hasfa, Frogmore, Frogmore Extension, Forrester Estate, Elsinore, Forrester Estate, and Goveti Ranch.

3. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

Chief Makofe was the first of the present chiefs to arrive in this area with his people. They were Wabudjga of Mtoko and migrated at the time when offshoots of the Wabudjga, such as Chief Chibi, etc., were spreading over the country. The present Mazoe district was then very sparsely populated.

The next arrival was Chief Negomo, who is a Murozwi of Jiri's people in the present Bikita district. They found parts of the Mazoe district that were uninhabited and settled here.

Chiweshe and his younger brother, Wata, broke away from Nyashanu's people owing to famine and migrated to where Salisbury is now. They defeated Mbari and, as a reward for his part in the fight, Chiweshe split his people between himself and Wata, and both sections came north into the Mazoe district and established themselves as chiefs.

4. TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANISATION:

The reserve is divided into four areas, under separate chiefs. These are:

see Mashungaidze 1976

Stock figures, as at January 1957, were:

Cattle	18,410	<i>Pigo 553 see Chart I</i>
Calves	2,322	
Donkeys	644	
Sheep	114	
Goats	1,101	

Stock Management: Nil.

Breeds: mixed indigenous and exotic.

Control of Bulls: Nil, but the Animal Husbandry Officer has started a bull selection scheme as a first step to control.

Stock control has been lacking in the past. Many cattle are kept in areas other than where the owner has his land. Dip cards do not show the true ownership of stock, though this is now being remedied to a certain extent.

8. RAINFALL:

The reserve falls into the 30 to 35 inch rainfall category.

9. SOIL:

Most of the soil in the reserve is sandy loam, varying in colours such as yellow, grey, pink. There are very small areas of almost pure sand, mainly in the west. Throughout the whole area, intrusions of red loam soil are found, of reasonable size; there are, however, no areas of heavy red clay soil.

10. WATER SUPPLIES:

Water supplies are extremely good, with seven perennial rivers - Sawi, Mtorogundu, Ruia, Manwanzon, Chiraresi, Monera and Sikoska. These are supported by many smaller rivers which contain water most of the year. Vleis are large and numerous. Four sponges are fenced. Two very small dams have been constructed by individuals, to maintain a supply of water for gardens. Three bridges, one each on the Mtorogundu, Manwanzon and Monera, have been so constructed that they can be converted into weirs in the dry season by the insertion of wooden baulks. There are a few lined wells, owned by individuals, scattered throughout the reserve.

11. GRAZING:

Grazing in the areas is fair and there is a large proportion of wet land grazing. This has led to internal parasites in some areas. More land should be set aside for grazing, as the present arable/grazing ratio, at 1 to 2, is very bad. Better grazing management will be essential.

12. TIMBER:

The south and central areas are sparsely timbered. The north, the hilly and less populated portion, is well timbered.

*ideal?  
Hamilton  
Jordan*

13. CENTRALISATION, SOIL CONSERVATION AND EROSION:

The reserve was centralised in 1939, but it is completely inadequate. Much of the grazing has since been ploughed. In the centre and east, there are very large arable blocks which need to be completely broken down, with large areas being reverted to grazing.

Several areas have in the past been contoured or grass-stripped, but they all need re-doing. At present about 4,500 acres have been done and are fit for allocation.

Erosion, sheet and gully, occurs in all areas in varying degrees. On the whole, sheet erosion is not so bad that land cannot be recovered and only a few small areas are unusable. Gully erosion, on the other hand, is very bad in some areas, particularly near the kopjies and in the very hilly north. Many of these areas are completely unsuitable for use and could not, in fact, be protected. Again, ploughing is taking place right down to the edges of the main rivers - in some cases crops are actually washed down the rivers by flood waters - and this has led to considerable silting of rivers.

14. AGRICULTURE:

Figures for previous years are unobtainable, but the average yield of all crops in bags per acre for 1955-56 was:

*Johnson's sample gives overall av of 396 say 400*

	<i>@ 200 lb bags</i>	<i>kg/ha</i>	<i>lb/acre</i>	<i>Johnson</i>
Master farmers	2398	10.7		
Plot holders	2286	10.2		
Co-operators	1255	5.6		
Ordinary farmers	538	2.4	444 lb	300 gmmt 264 millet
			maize	

Rains were heavy, but this was a good season otherwise, and pest and weed damage was slight.

*yields*  
Crop Area and Production Estimates:

	<u>%-age of arable:</u>
(a) Maize	83 75.5
Nuts	8 13.2
Rapoko	6 11.3
Rice	3 <i>nil</i>

*cf Robin's figs*

	<u>bags per acre:</u>
(b) Maize	3 600 444
Nuts	2 400 300
Rapoko	3 600 264
Rice	$\frac{3}{4}$ 150

15. DIP TANKS: 10

Number of Cattle:

Manomano	1,528
Rosa	1,945
Kanyemba	2,292
Katena	1,518
Nywimbo	2,250
Shofo	2,420
Mkodzongi	1,815
Madombgwi	1,223
Monera	2,184
Chaona	1,235

18,410

6/As can...

As can be seen, too many cattle are dipping at all dips except Madombgwi and Chaona. At least three new dips are required to ease congestion at existing dips. All the existing dips, with the exception of Kanyemba and Katena need resiting.

16. COMMUNICATIONS:

Rail: the nearest rail head is at Glendale, 9 miles from the southern boundary of the reserve. This road is all-weather and is usually in reasonable repair.

Road: the distance from the reserve boundary to Salisbury by road is 47 miles. This is an all-weather road.

In the reserve, the road from the south to Bari in the north is normally passable at all times, except when rivers are in flood. The four largest rivers along this road are bridged. Beyond Bari, the road to the north-east is very bad and impassable to most vehicles at all times. The remaining roads are bad and mainly impassable during the rains.

Bus Services: there are three locally owned bus services - Musami, Nyangoni and Mukomberanwa. The last has two buses, one running to Glendale only. The other three buses all go to Salisbury.

There are many lorries, vans and other vehicles, all of which carry passengers (unauthorised) or goods to all centres.

Post Office:

The nearest post office is at Glendale, and there is a telephone line into the reserve. Several stores, the clinic and the Field Assistant are on this line.

17. VILLAGES:

Kraals are in line around the arable blocks, and many people are considerable distances from their lands. The kraals are mostly reasonably clean and some are well supplied with fruit trees. Most buildings are rondavel type, built with kimberly brick and thatched, but there are quite a number of burnt brick multi-roomed houses.

18. SCHOOLS:

Anglican: 1: St. Albans.

Roman Catholic: 2: Goteka and Jaji.

Salvation Army: 23:

Howard Institute (Upper Primary and T.T.)			
Nyachuru	Nzwimbo	Madombgwe	Musarara
Shutu	Chinchasha	Gweshe	Mchirakuenda
Bobo Garondi	Bell Rock	Gunguwe	Gwingwizha
Kanyemba	Shofu	Chigwida	Kakora
Nyakudza	Jingamwura	Kamukamwe	Mukodzongi
Bari	Chaona		

19. TRADE AND BUSINESS:

Business centres are as follows:

Gweshe	Rosa	Rgwere	Nyachuru
Muringori	Bari	Mupandangama	Shutu
Jingamwura	Chiweshe	Mchirakuenda	Chinekasha
Kamukamwe	Mukodzongi	Nzwimbo.	

Several stores are European-owned and one of these, Rusenga, is not at a business centre. It does more trade than any other.

There are many tradesmen in the reserve, including:

Blacksmiths	4	Basket makers	22
Builders	71	Carpenters	22
Painters	26	Plumbers	1
Tinsmiths	29	Bakers	5
Butchers	9	Herbalists	16
Waggon makers	1		

20. VERMIN:

Hyaena and, in the hilly north, leopards, cause some trouble to cattle, and monkeys and baboons steal from the lands. Council guns assist to some extent in keeping down the numbers.

21. GENERAL:

NB  
↓  
X

The application of the Act was not exactly greeted with enthusiasm by the locals and, in fact, Chiefs Chiweshe and Negomo at first refused to have anything to do with it. Land counting had to be held up until the Native Commissioner explained the situation. After that, there was no active antagonism. Unfortunately, the Act was applied late in Chiweshe and various ways of circumventing the provisions of the Act were already known. The most common was the splitting of lands, so that people away from the reserve were all credited with a piece. Unfortunately, it was not possible to prove this in most cases, as relatives came out glibly with the "right" answers. This has aggravated an already serious problem, that of over population. The actual number of families (6,660) is more than treble the assessed carrying capacity of 2,200, and the result is that every available piece of land, desirable or undesirable, is being ploughed. This includes large areas of what was originally allocated to grazing. Of the 60,000 acres now under the plough, just over half are fit for use as arable, and this, coupled with the fact that re-centralisation will, if done properly, cut out some arable, means that available land is tight. The answer would be to remove 2,000 families, if land is available elsewhere.

19th August 1957:

(Signed) LAND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER.

(/Copy/JC/September 1957.)

SUMMARY OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION:

Number of kraals	<i>164 on map</i>	171
Number of taxpayers		8,320
Number of resident males		3,990
Number of stock owners		4,368
Number of land holders		5,480
Number with stock and land		4,130
Number with stock only		238
Number with land only		1,350
Number of females with stock and/or land		800

Acreage <u>cultivated</u> :	dry	51,463
	wet	8,049
	total	<i>24 084 ha</i> 59,512 *
Arable uncultivated		Nil
Total <u>arable</u> acreage		59,512 *
Total usable arable	<i>6.4 acres/holder</i>	35,000 -
Approximate appropriate acreage (at 8 acres standard)		43,208
Sufficiency of land (minus)		- 8,208

Animal units declared		19,297
Wheeled <u>transport</u>		1,133
Sleights		1,816
Total acreage of area		211,180
Estimated wasteland	<i>1/4</i>	30,000 %
Total usable		181,180
Total grazing		121,668 -

Density of population per square mile	<i>40/km<sup>2</sup></i>	101	<i>389/km<sup>2</sup></i>
Average animal units per land holder		3.5	
Average acreage cultivated per land holder		10.9	
Arable acreage cultivated per taxpayer		7.2	
Grazing average for animal unit (D.N.A.'s formula)		6.3	
Ratio animal units to cultivated acreage	<i>?</i>	1:3.1	<i>3.09</i> X

STOCK DETAILS:

Calves	2,322
Cattle	18,410
Donkeys and Mules	644
Sheep	114
Goats	1,101
Animal units	19,297

*Pigo 553 Chart 1*

Animal Units: Owners: Total:      Animal Units: Owners: Total:

1	365	365	11	19	209
2	648	1,296	12	20	240
3	641	1,923	13	2	26
4	739	2,956	14	2	28
5	678	3,390	15	8	120
6	578	3,468	16	-	-
7	337	2,359	17	2	34
8	180	1,440	18	1	18
9	73	657	19	2	38
10	73	730			

*cf p10 Johnson*

Total number of stock:	19,297
Total number of owners:	4,368

*only 56      713*

*4.4*



FORESTRY REPORT:INTRODUCTION:

The area was visited on the 26th March 1957, by Forester Barry and Forest Officer Furness, accompanied by the Land Development Officer.

Costs: £6.6.0d.  
Mileage: 155 Land Rover miles.

PART I1. LOCATION AND AREA:

Bounded on the south by the following so as to exclude them, farms Ndiri East, Mazamba, Lot 22, 33, Pasidya, Villa Franca, Grey (Sunridge), Mari Phumbi, The Birch, Bell Rock, Moorfields and Truro; on the east by the farms Duntarvie, Makori, Brockeley, Chomkuti, Dunaverty, Lagnaha, Brookdale, Maparu, Hinton, Dimitra Extn., Crewkerne, Lilstock, Bruton, Audrey and Lawleys to the hill Chaona, thence on the north by a straight line from the hill Chaona to the south-east beacon of Chipiri, thence along the southern boundary of Chipiri to the hill Rumanje, thence on the west by the farms Covete Ranch, Forrester Estate, Elsinora, Umvukwe Estate, Frogmore Extn., Frogmore, Hasfa, Arda, Tekke, Bannf and Ndiri "A".

The total area is 211,180 acres, of which 154,000 acres are usable land.

2. GEOLOGY AND SOILS:

Soils are mainly derived from granite and are coarse grained sands. Frequent local variations due to small dolerite dykes which give patches of red clay are found.

3. RAINFALL AND TOPOGRAPHY:

The reserve lies in the 32" to 40" rainfall belts.

The area in the south is broken up by kopjes, and the north extremely broken up with innumerable hills and kopjes. Drainage, in the southern portion is mainly south-easterly; in the central portion easterly and the northern portion north-easterly.

4. VEGETATION:

273 *spiciformis* *Julbernardia globiflora* 280

The main vegetation is Msasa and Mnondo, with Mahobohobo occurring frequently.

408 *Lapaca Kirkiana*

The southern section is "sparsely timbered, being heavily populated. The northern section is well timbered, but less populated.

Other species seen were: Acacia spp., Combretum spp.,  
Lanea discolor, Paranari mobola, Pterocarpus angolensis,  
Brachystegia tamarindoides.

Lagnaha, Brookdale, Maparu, Hinton, Dimitra Extn., Crewkerne, Lilstock, Bruton, Audrey and Lawleys to the hill Chaona, thence on the north by a straight line from the hill Chaona to the south-east beacon of Chipiri, thence along the southern boundary of Chipiri to the hill Rumanje, thence on the west by the farms Covete Ranch, Forrester Estate, Elsinora, Umvukwe Estate, Frogmore Extn., Frogmore, Hasfa, Arda, Tekke, Bannf and Ndiri "A".

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Other species seen were: *Acacia* spp., *Combretum* spp., *Lanea discolor*, *Paranari mobola*, *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Brachystegia tamarindoides*.

279

*glaucescens*

*curatellifolia*

2/Existing...

271

Palgrave

p 459

5. EXISTING PLANTATIONS:

There are six plantations, the total acreage of which is 186.3 acres of Eucalypts and 7.7 acres of conifers.

Rosa (main plantation)	55.08 HA	136.0 acres Eucalypts
	3.11	7.7 acres conifers;
Manumanu	139	7.75 HA 19.1 acres Eucalypts;
Kanyemba	near 15'	1.94 4.8 acres Eucalypts;
Shopo	55	0.97 2.4 acres Eucalypts;
Bari	23	2.28 5.6 acres Eucalypts;
Ruia	75.45 HA	7.45 18.4 acres Eucalypts;
Total:	3.11 HA	186.3 acres Eucalypts; 7.7 acres conifers.

*see my table for later figs*

Not all these plantations were inspected, but those that were are doing well. Rosa is sub-divided into 21 different areas. The Eucalypt species are rather mixed, the seed being collected from local sources. The conifers are not being considered for timber, as they are unpruned, unthinned and in a number of cases have double leaders.

*75.45 75.39 HA*

186.3 Acres of Eucalypts should give a yield of 35,390 cubic feet per annum.

6. TIMBER REQUIREMENTS:

Estimated timbered area	80,000 acres
Annual increment	8 cu.ft.
Estimated total annual volume	640,000 cu.ft.
Present population	6,380 families
Estimated annual cut / family?	250 cu.ft.
Total annual cut	1,595,000 cu.ft.

*32.375 HA*

If the population is reduced to the carrying capacity, 2,200 families, the total annual cut will be 550,000 cubic feet.

On the present population figures there is a deficit of 955,000 cubic feet of timber annually.

In actual fact, from figures received from this reserve over a period of twelve months, the consumption of firewood alone amounts to 400 cubic feet per family per annum. This means a consumption of 2,552,000 cubic feet per annum for 6,380 families.

*11.33 M<sup>3</sup>*

If the figures received are assumed to be accurate, the position is very serious.

*obviously some of this is carried off to S by by week-enders*

PART II

PROPOSALS

1. AREAS FOR PLANTING AND NURSERIES:

It is recommended that plantations in the north of the reserve be extended. Transport facilities from the south are likely to prove difficult, should the inhabitants in the north require poles for building purposes, which could not be met by the existing plantations.

The area in the vicinity of Bari is suggested for these extensions.

To overcome the firewood problem it is suggested for that each kraal or group of kraals is encouraged to establish a small plantation of Eucalypts for fuel purposes.

This would greatly relieve the pressure at present being put on indigenous sources.

Schools should also be encouraged to establish plantations.

2. AREAS PROPOSED FOR RESERVATION:

None.

3. SUITABILITY FOR LARGE SCALE AFFORESTATION:

The area is not considered suitable.

4. MANAGEMENT:

No comments.

A.J. Barry,  
FORESTER: NATIVE AREAS:  
EASTERN DISTRICTS AND NORTHERN MASHONALAND.

(Copy/JC/September 1957).

TREES.

COMMON OR NATIVE NAME:  
 MAHOBOHOBO  
 MSASA  
 MANONDO  
 MFUTI  
 FIG  
 MUSEKESI  
 MUSUSU  
 SAUSAGJ TREE  
 ACACIA  
 MOPANE  
 OOMERETUM  
 DUIKER TREE  
 KNOB THORN  
 MUGODO  
 WATERBERRY  
 MARULA  
 PAPER BARK  
 BAOBAB  
 RHODESIAN WATTLE

BOTANICAL NAME:

UAPACA KIRKIANA  
 BRACHYSTERGIA SPICIFORMIS  
 JUBERNARDIA GLOBIFLORA  
 BRACHYSTERGIA BOHEMITI  
 FIGUS SPP.  
 PILOSTIGMA THONNINGII  
 TERMINALIA SERICEA  
 KIGELIA PINNATA  
 ACACIA SPP.  
 COLOPHOSPERMUM MOPANE  
 OOMERETUM SPP.  
 PSEUDOLACHNOSTYLIS MAPROUNEAEFOLIA  
 ACACIA NIGRESCENS  
 OOMERETUM IMBERBE  
 SYZYGIIUM GUINEENSE  
 SOLEROCARYA CAFFERA  
 OOMITIPHORA SPP.  
 ADANSONIA DIGITATA  
 PELTOPHORUM AFRICANUM

*Nd  
Chimela } ?*

GRASSES

--  
 CATS TAIL  
 --  
 BOTTLE BRUSH  
 FINGER GRASS  
 HEART SEED  
 LOVE GRASS  
 --  
 --  
 --  
 --  
 SICKLE GRASS  
 --  
 --  
 RED TOP  
 THATCH GRASS

}

UROCHLOA NOSAMBICENSIS  
 SPOROBOLUS PYRAMIDALIS  
 CRASPEDORHACHIS AFRICANA  
 PEROTIS INDICA  
 DIGITARIA SPP.  
 ERAGROSTIS SUPERBA  
 ERAGROSTIS CHALCANTHA  
 ERAGROSTIS SP. CP. JEFFREYSII  
 ERAGROSTIS CHAPPELLIERI  
 MEGUROCHLOA SETACEA  
 STEREOCHLAENA CAMERONII  
 RHYNCHELYTRUM SPP.  
 HYPARRHENIA SPP.

SHRUBS AND FORBS

*F*

UPRIGHT STAR BURR  
CHIGUNGURU

ACANTHOSPERMUM HISPIDUM  
 LOPHOLAENA ORITIFOLIA