

20 May 2014 update note

We have been enjoying steady rains since the beginning of last week. This area had received only scattered showers for seven months. The rivers and canals were low because the winter rains did not come, which meant much extra hard work for the farmers. Everything was getting brown, and the farmers were concerned that they might not be able to plant their summer crop. That all changed with a heavy rainfall on May 12. Everything started greening up the next day. People did not even complain about the mud! We have had some rain most days since then, and heavy rains twice. Today I asked our Lord for enough sunshine for all of us who have laundry that needs to get dry. I have been laughing with my staff and our patients. For months, we were distressed by a LOT of dust and few prospects of anything better. Now, we are dealing with daytime rain and mud, and the grass is growing very fast (so are the weeds!). It seems like we are never satisfied.

There is progress on the ministry residence. All of the walls and block work should be done in the next two weeks. We are using up the blocks we had, getting the rest made, and setting everything in place. This will keep the hand-made blocks from sitting in mud, and possibly weakening over time. It will also provide extra support under the beams when we pour the roof. Isaac and I agree that pouring a cement roof just before a huge rainfall could be a disaster. You may remember the masonry work for the Haitian toilet that caved in after a huge rainfall two years ago. We do, too, and that has made us careful.

The clothes are drying, the English muffins have finished their second rising, and it is starting to get cloudy. Gotta go!