



HUKAMA PRODUCE

*growing
relationships*

RAMONA, CA



Tina Chitura
610-368-3860



Farm Location: Ramona
Farm Size: 1 acre
Main crop: Kale and Corn

MY FARM STORY

Meet Tina Chitura of Hukama farms! Tina makes an effort to always connect with the people she meets every day. Whether at the farm stand, the farmers market, or while running errands, she is always making connections and bringing people together. These connections influenced the name of her farm, Hukama, which means relationships in Shona, Tina's language. Tina grows a unique selection of crops in Ramona, taking inspiration from her homeland, Zimbabwe. At her farm stand, you can find Dino kale and sweet corn, but you will also be surprised by the incredible variety of available crops that are native to Zimbabwe, including maize, pumpkin leaves, and round nuts. "I want to cater to everybody," Tina says in describing the diverse range of crops on her farm.



Tina's passion for farming and for her culture is evident in her selection of crops and her eye for quality in what she delivers to her customers. "I love farming to the point where when I go to sell my products, I only present the freshest product." Tina believes that the purpose behind farming is simple, "to grow good food for people." Some of her most popular crops are kale, cabbage, broccoli, onions, beets, peppers, zucchini, African okra and spinach. Everything on the farm is grown using organic methods, and Tina is always looking to learn about growing new crops from different countries in Africa. Tina's goal for her farm is to specialize completely in African crops. "I have a vision that on May 25th, Africa day, we will have a gathering of people from different African countries and celebrate the day with African food grown from my farm."



Tina was not always a farmer. She grew up in the city, but after moving to a more rural area with her husband, she discovered her love for growing food. She was inspired by her mother-in-law's success with growing cotton she said, "Let's start a garden so we don't buy any vegetables, we will have all our own." She found herself shoveling manure and planting kale and other greens, and soon enough, she had a successful garden and a newfound passion. After moving to Ramona, Tina began gardening at a local community garden, but shortly decided she needed to expand to something larger. She would knock on neighbor's doors asking to use their land to grow food, and that is how she found the land that she grows on today!