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# **CARIBBEAN FOOD CROPS SOCIETY**

# **45**

## **Forty Fifth Annual Meeting 2009**

### **Frigate Bay Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis**

#### **Vol. XLV Number 1 T-STAR Invasive Species Symposium**

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
45<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

Caribbean Food Crops Society  
45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
July 12-17, 2009

St. Kitts Marriott & Royal Beach Casino  
Frigate Bay, St. Kitts and Nevis

**“Reality and Potential of Food Security and Agricultural Diversification in Small Island  
Developing States”**

**“Realidad y Potencial de la Seguridad Alimentaria y la Diversificación Agrícola en  
Pequeños Estados Insulares en Desarrollo”**

**"Sécurité alimentaire et diversification agricole dans les petits états insulaires en  
développement: réalisations et perspectives".**

**United States Department of Agriculture,  
T-STAR Sponsored Invasive Species Symposium**

**INVASIVE SPECIES SAFEGUARDING: IMPERATIVE FOR CARIBBEAN  
REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL DIVERSIFICATION AND FOOD SECURITY**

**Special Symposium Edition  
Edited by  
Waldemar Klassen, Carlton G. Davis, Edward A. Evans, Sikavas Na-Lampang  
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**AN UPDATE OF THE WORK BY THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON  
TEPHRITID FRUIT FLIES IN THE CARIBBEAN**

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**ABSTRACT.** At the first meeting of the Plant Health Directors of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) held during the period 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> to April 2008, it was agreed to establish several technical working groups to address the issues relating to various pests of importance to the region.

The meeting of CARICOM Technical Working Group on Tephritid Fruit Flies was held in Georgetown, Guyana during the period 16<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> September 2009. The general objective of this group is to safeguard the Caribbean from the threats and/or the impacts of introductions, economic damage and spread of Tephritid Fruit Flies through investigation/research and the provision of advice on all matters related to these fruit flies.

Several tasks were assigned to Member States and Organizations, most of which have since been fulfilled and reported at the Second Meeting of CARICOM Plant Health Directors held during the period 4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

Achievements include a compilation of a list of existing confirmed species; identification of newly introduced species; a listing of species outside the region which pose a threat to the region; determination of species existing within the region which pose a threat to non-infested Caribbean countries; determination and recommendation of systems for prevention, management and/or eradication at the ports of entry and the field; keeping up-to-date with new methods of identification, spread, control and eradication; making recommendations on emergency preparedness for outbreaks; and advising on public awareness.

**KEYWORDS:** Tephritid fruit flies, CARICOM, Technical Working Group, species

**INTRODUCTION**

The first meeting of the Plant health Directors of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) was held in Georgetown, Guyana during the period April 23-25, 2008. Several technical working groups were established to address the issues relating to pests of importance to the region. These groups were to investigate, advise and make recommendations on matters related to pests for consideration of CARICOM Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED). Present at the meeting were (CARICOM) group member countries and organizations including USDA/APHIS, CARDI, CCS, CABI, FAO and IICA. The Technical Working Group on Tephritid Fruit Flies was one of the groups established.

The general objective of this group is to safeguard the Caribbean from the threats and/or the impact of introductions, economic damage and spread of Tephritid fruit flies through investigation/research and the provision of advice on all matters related to these fruit flies. A

meeting of the CARICOM Technical Working Group on Tephritid Fruit Flies was held in Georgetown, Guyana during the period September 16–17, 2008.

## TASKS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Several areas of responsibilities were determined and assigned to Member States (MS) and organizations. Several tasks were assigned to Member States and Organizations. Most of the assigned tasks have since been fulfilled and reported upon at the Second Meeting of CARICOM Plant Health Directors held in Georgetown, Guyana, during the period March 4–5, 2009. Some of these are as follows:

1. There was a compilation of a list of confirmed species in each member state.
2. *Anastrepha obliqua* was listed in all Member States except Cayman Islands.
3. Those Member States with several species of Tephritid Fruit Flies were Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.
4. Fruit Flies Species listed for Guyana include: *Anastrepha obliqua*, *Anastrepha striata*, *Anastrepha ethlea*, *Anastrepha sorocula*, *Anastrepha fraterculus*, *Anastrepha serpentina*, *Anastrepha interupta*, *Anastrepha distincta* and *Bactrocera carambolae*.
5. Species listed for Jamaica include: *Anastrepha obliqua*, *Anastrepha striata*, *Anastrepha ocesia*, *Anastrepha murrayi*, *Anastrepha* sp. nr. *Nigrifascia* Stone, *Anastrepha cryptostrepha*, and *Zonosenata minuta* Bush.
6. Species listed for Suriname include: *Anastrepha obliqua*, *Anastrepha striata*, *Anastrepha serpentina*, *Anastrepha distincta*, *Anastrepha antunisi*, *Anastrepha pickeli* and *Bactrocera carambolae*.
7. Species listed for Trinidad and Tobago include: *Anastrepha obliqua*, *Anastrepha fraterculus*, *Anastrepha striata*, *Anastrepha serpentina*, *Anastrepha antunisi*, *Anastrepha amita*, *Anastrepha infuscota*, *Anastrepha spatulata* and *Anastrepha acris*.
8. A listing of species found outside the region, which pose a threat to the region was developed and includes *Ceratitis capitata*, *Bactrocera dorsalis* and *Anastrepha ludens*.
9. Another of the noted achievements was the use of human resource capital of the region to assist Member States. This included workshops for the training of staff in field identification and trapping of fruit flies in Tobago, July 7-11, 2008 and in Cayman Islands, January 27-30, 2009.

The benefits derived from the training were the establishment of five trap lines by trained staff on Grand Cayman Island. These trap lines were at lower valley, George Town, West Bay North side and East end areas. Also four trap lines were established by trained staff in Tobago in Scarborough, Crown Point, Windward and Mason Hall areas. Trained staff in Tobago intercepted and identified fruit flies caught in traps between July and December 2008. Fruit flies caught were five *Anastrepha obliqua*, twenty-seven *Anastrepha striata*, and fifty-four *Anastrepha serpentina*.

Because of the training conducted, an additional benefit was a link with experts from Trinidad and Tobago and USDA/APHIS to discuss and develop an emergency response plan for fruit flies for Cayman Islands.

### **FUTURE WORKS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON TEPHRITID FRUIT FLIES**

Future works include development of manuals and fact sheets on Tephritid fruit flies and continued training in field identification and trapping of Fruit flies provided to Member States upon request.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Technical Working Group on Tephritid Fruit Flies acknowledges the financial and technical support of the USDA/APHIS and the technical support of the partner organizations, CCS, CARDI, IICA and FAO.