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PROCEEDINGS
of the
NINTH WEST INDIES
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS CONFERENCE

held at the
Pegasus Hotel, New Kingston, Jamaica

April 3rd - 6th, 1974

and at

The Jamaica School of Agriculture
Twickenham Park

April 7th - 10th, 1974

EDITORS: DR. S.C. BIRLA &
DR. C.E. MCINTOSH

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND FARM MANAGEMENT

FOREWORD

The Ninth West Indies Agricultural Economics Conference was held on April 2 - 9 at the Pegasus Hotel, New Kingston and the Jamaica School of Agriculture, Twickenham Park, Spanish Town. The Conference was sponsored by the University of the West Indies, the Government of Jamaica and the Jamaica Agricultural Society, and had as its main theme "*The Relationship between Agriculture and Other Sectors with particular reference to the Competition for Resources in the Commonwealth Caribbean*".

The Conference was attended by over 77 farmers, planners, agricultural economists, economists and other social scientists who came from Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America, Canada, U.S.A. and the United Kingdom.

At the business meeting of the Conference the Caribbean Agro-Economic Society was formally launched. This Society immediately got down to planning the Tenth West Indies Agricultural Economics Conference which will be held in Guyana in April 1975. The theme of this Conference is "*Maximizing Regional Self-sufficiency in Food in the Commonwealth Caribbean*".

Acknowledgements

Our sincere thanks are due to:-

Mr. K. Munn, Minister of Agriculture (Jamaica); Pro-Vice-Chancellor S. Martin; Staff of the Ministry of Agriculture (Jamaica); Members of the Secretariat. Special mention must also be given to Drs. L.B. Rankine and A.S. Wood; the Ford Foundation; Jamaica Agricultural Society; Research & Publications Committee of the University of the West Indies; Alcan (Jamaica) Ltd., Jamaica School of Agriculture and all those who have contributed and have not been mentioned.

S.C. BIRLA
Acting Head,
Dept. of Agric. Econ.
& Farm Management
U.W.I., St. Augustine
Trinidad, West Indies

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

This document contains the papers presented during plenary sessions of the Conference. Some minor editorial changes have been made in the papers mainly to obtain some degree of uniformity and to avoid the repetition. Summaries of the discussion on papers and the reports of the three workshop sessions are included. Also included are a selected number of contributed papers which formed the basis of workshop sessions.

The editors wish to record the glowing tribute paid to Professor David T. Edwards by Pro-Vice-Chancellor S. Martin at the Opening Ceremony of the Conference. Professor Edwards, who has since resigned from the University of the West Indies, successfully initiated the conference series in 1966, and until his resignation took a very active part in their organisation. His contribution to the series and region as a whole was highly praised at the Business Meeting of the Conference.

Thanks are also due to Mr. R. Sookram, Mr. M. Lim Choy, Mrs. H. Mohammed, Mr. H. Taylor and Mr. J. Johnson for the assistance in editing, typing, proof-reading, duplicating and binding of this report.

S.C. Birla &
C.E. McIntosh
Editors

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