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EIGHTEENTH WEST INDIES AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS CONFERENCE

to be held in Jamaica
April 7 - 10, 1986

Telephone: 663 - 1359
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Cable Address:
STOMATA

"Inventives and Support Systems for Food and Agriculture"

Sponsored by:

THE CARIBBEAN AGRO-
ECONOMIC SOCIETY in
association with:

- The Caribbean Food
and Nutrition
Institute/Pan
American Health
Organization
(CFNI/PAHO)
- The International
Association of
Agricultural
Economists (IAAE)
- Dept. of Agricultural
Economics & Farm
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- The Institute of
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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND FARM MANAGEMENT

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

EIGHTEENTH

**WEST INDIES AGRICULTURAL
ECONOMICS CONFERENCE**

FRANK W. ALLEYNE

Editor

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1987



EDITOR'S REPORT

The Eighteenth West Indies Agricultural Economics Conference was held in Jamaica during April 7th - 10th, 1986, and attracted more than 100 participants including several from overseas.

The slow pace of agricultural diversification being experienced within the Caricom Region, and the rapid growth in the extra-regional food import bill, along with national desires to introduce non-traditional export crops as quickly as possible, combined to make the conference theme "Incentives and Support Systems for Food and Agriculture" particularly relevant at this time. The conference sessions were comprised of a good mix of theoretical and policy issues pertaining to farm incentives regimes.

The thrust of the Eighteenth Conference was directed toward identification of sound and practical approaches to the development of support systems for the agricultural sector, paying particular attention to the non-traditional commercial sub-sector. Papers which addressed broad theoretical and conceptual issues were dealt with in Plenary Sessions. The vast majority of papers were discussed in Workshop Sessions, thereby providing an opportunity for intensive reflection on the relevant issues. Participation by international figures such as Professor Leo Polopolus and Glenn Johnson helped to broaden the perspective of conference deliberations.

The conference papers have been screened by internal assessors and we have not been able to publish all papers presented. In some instances we have reproduced abstracts of conference presentations. The collections of papers fall into six sub-groups, including Macro-economic Approaches to Food Policy, Research, Education and Extension; Subsidies and Incentives; Pricing Policies; Agricultural Insurance and Food Nutrition.

The Conference benefited from substantial financial and technical support provided by the Jamaican office of the Institute for International Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA) and particularly its officer-in-charge, Mr. Irwin Telfer. We wish to record our appreciation to the secretarial staff of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management of The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine campus, and to the several referees who made the task of editing less burdensome.

Finally, we wish to acknowledge the contributions of Drs. Carlisle Pemberton, Ranjit Singh and Professor Compton Bourne, who were the moving forces behind the organisation and success of the Eighteenth Conference.

FRANK ALLEYNE
Editor

EIGHTEENTH

WEST INDIES AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS CONFERENCE

7th - 10th April, 1986

held at

The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica

Theme: "INCENTIVES AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE"

Sponsored by

The Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER),
U.W.I., Mona Campus

The Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute/
Pan American Health Organization (CFNI/PAHO)

The International Association of
Agricultural Economists (IAAE)

The Department of Agricultural Economics
& Farm Management, U.W.I.

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