

IICA



DEVELOPMENT OF A PLANT QUARANTINE SYSTEM FOR THE OECS

HELD IN PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD

NOVEMBER 16, 1988

EDITED BY

EVERTON AMBROSE

PLANT PROTECTION SPECIALIST

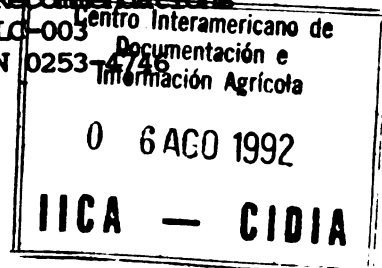
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89-03

IICA OFFICE IN SAINT LUCIA



Series of papers, Results and Recommendations
from Technical Events A2/LC-003

ISSN 0253-4746



PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST MEETING

OF PLANT PROTECTION OFFICERS

IN THE

ORGANIZATION OF EASTERN CARIBBEAN STATES (OECS)

DEVELOPMENT OF A PLANT QUARANTINE SYSTEM FOR THE OECS

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The Responsibility for the opinions expressed in this publication rests solely with the authors.

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INTRODUCTION

A meeting of Directors of Plant Protection in the OECS (Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St Lucia, St Vincent) was held on November 16, 1988 at the Hotel Normandie, Port of Spain, Trinidad as an annex to a meeting to discuss an Animal Health and Plant Protection Project for the Caribbean. The meeting was convened by the IICA Office in St Lucia to initiate discussion on the Development of a Plant Quarantine System for the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). The countries of Montserrat and St Kitts attended as observers.

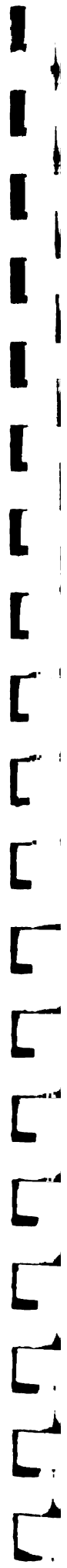
This document contains an edited version of the proceedings of that meeting.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Meeting of Directors of Plant Protection in the OECS was convened in Trinidad with the assistance and collaboration of the Representative and staff of the Office of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture in Trinidad and Tobago.

The proceedings of that meeting were prepared with the assistance of the staff of the IICA Office in St Lucia.





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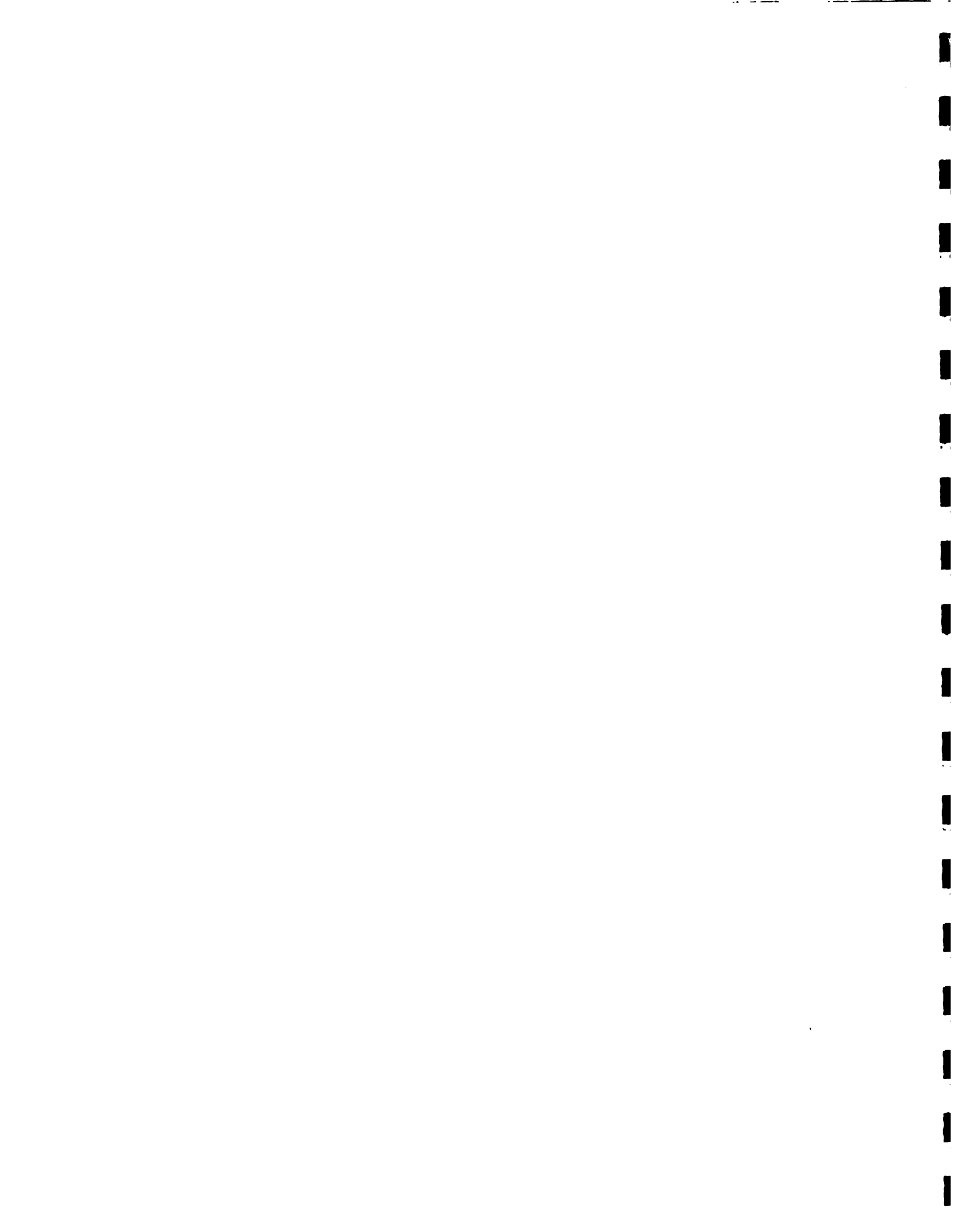
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OPENING SESSION



OPENING REMARKS

By

E Ambrose

Plant Protection Specialist IICA Office in St Lucia

Dr Brathwaite - IICA Representative in Trinidad & Tobago,
Directors of Plant Protection in the OECS, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Welcome to the first meeting of Plant Protection Directors in the OECS. This meeting is convened to discuss the Plant Quarantine Systems in the countries and to aim at developing an effective system in the OECS. We cannot overemphasize the importance of Plant quarantine to a country. Unfortunately, the countries are limited in their ability to put into place a system as exists in the more developed countries.

As a result, this meeting will:

1. Examine the system in the respective countries
2. Discuss problems
3. Recommend solutions which will lead to effective and economic Plant Quarantine Services in the countries

Dr Brathwaite, former Regional Plant Protection Specialist, has consented to give the Opening Address which will set the tone to our discussions. It is my pleasure, Ladies and Gentlemen, to ask Dr Brathwaite to address you.

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PLANT PROTECTION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE DIVERSIFICATION OF
AGRICULTURE IN THE CARIBBEAN IN THE YEAR 2,000

by

CWD Brathwaite
IICA Representative in Trinidad & Tobago

Mr Chairman, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen

When I was invited to present an address at the opening of this Workshop on "Plant Protection in the Eastern Caribbean States", I was concerned as to what would have been an appropriate message to bring to such a distinguished group of scientists and decision makers. I am concerned that an Opening Address at a meeting such as this should bring guidance, inspiration, hope and direction to the efforts of those who work in the field of plant protection. It should seek to assist in the development of strategies and approaches which give direction and meaning to the future initiatives. I, therefore, decided not to lament the poor state of our plant protection services, rather I decided to attempt to look to the future and to try to map the kind of goals which we should set for ourselves towards the year 2,000. An ambitious task!

In the year 2,000, which is now eleven years away, what should be the state of our plant protection services to serve the needs of Caribbean Agriculture? For those of you who may think that the year 2,000 is very far away let me remind those of you with children that your eleven year old was a baby just the other day and therefore time is short. In order, however, to visualize the role of plant protection in the Caribbean in the year 2,000 it is necessary to visualize agriculture in the Caribbean in the year 2,000.

Here then begins my journey into the future

It is now November 16, 1999 and the Caribbean Community Secretariat has confirmed that the last vestiges of the barriers to regional trade in agricultural produce in the Caribbean Community have been removed. The Caribbean has thus become a true common market and is only the second of its kind in the world following the European Common Market which was established in 1992. Food Production in the Community has been growing at an average rate of 6% per annum in the last few years and the variety of food available has increased considerably as a result of the diversification programmes which were established in the late 1980's and early 1990's.

The Director of Plant Protection and Quarantine at the CARICOM Secretariat reported that the Common Market Committee on Plant Protection and Quarantine which is made up of the Heads of National Units in all the member states have reported no incidence of disease spread from country to country during the last year but reported several interceptions as a result of the efficient plant quarantine inspection services in each country. These Plant Quarantine services were strengthened in the late 1990's and each service now consists of three components, Plant Quarantine Inspectors, Survey Personnel and a Diagnostic Service. Both the diagnostic service and the survey personnel are part of a regional network which is coordinated by a Regional Pest Monitoring Centre at the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of the West Indies.

This centre is a training, diagnostic, information and research facility. This facility carries out research on plant quarantine issues, survey methods and pesticide residue analysis. The facility organizes annual meetings which update all personnel on current methodologies and techniques in plant protection. The facility serves also as the point of reference for all identifications, diagnosis and survey work on plant pests and diseases in the region. The facility trains Plant Quarantine Officers for the region. The facility is linked to national units by computer and up-to-date information on the incidence and distribution of pests and disease is communicated to the national units from the centre. Information on current pesticide usage, control measures and research results are all accessible from a central Data Base. The Centre also has an Emergency Fund to respond to the outbreak of any pest or disease in the Community.

Pesticide usage on major crops has declined rapidly in recent years as a result of a successful integrated pest management programme which was introduced into the region in 1992. In addition, there has been no rejection of produce from the Caribbean in North America or Europe during the year due to high pesticide residue levels as a result of the Integrated Pest Management Programme and the establishment of a Regional Pesticide Testing Service (RPTS) in the Regional Pest Monitoring Centre (RPMC).

The Facility was established in the early 1990's as a result of the insistence of some countries mainly in the north who banned importation of specific agricultural exports with high levels of pesticides.

Visitors to the Caribbean have been amazed at the high level of sophistication and organization of the plant protection services but these have been the results of many years of struggle by professionals in plant protection of the islands in

the 1960's and 1970's and 1980's who recognized the critical role which plant protection must play in the transformation of the agricultural economies from the production of sugar, bananas, cocoa and coffee to tropical fruits and food crops. Their efforts were assisted by the outbreak of many devastating diseases and pests during these years but particularly by the discovery of the African Desert Locusts in the Caribbean in 1988 which was reported in almost all the islands simultaneously and resulted in truly regional response. The outbreak was of such concern that plant protection officials met in Port of Spain in November of 1988 and presented the Mandate of Port of Spain to their Governments warning them of the seriousness of disease and pest outbreaks and the need for an effective regional system of Plant Quarantine and Plant Protection. The credit of success of our Plant Protection in the Caribbean today, the year 2,000, must be attributed in part to the hard work and dedication of those who met in Port of Spain in 1988.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all the very best in your deliberations.

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and their corresponding positions. The names are listed in a vertical column on the right side of the page. The positions are listed in a vertical column on the left side of the page. The names and positions are as follows:

REVIEW OF PLANT PROTECTION/QUARANTINE SYSTEMS
COUNTRY REPORTS

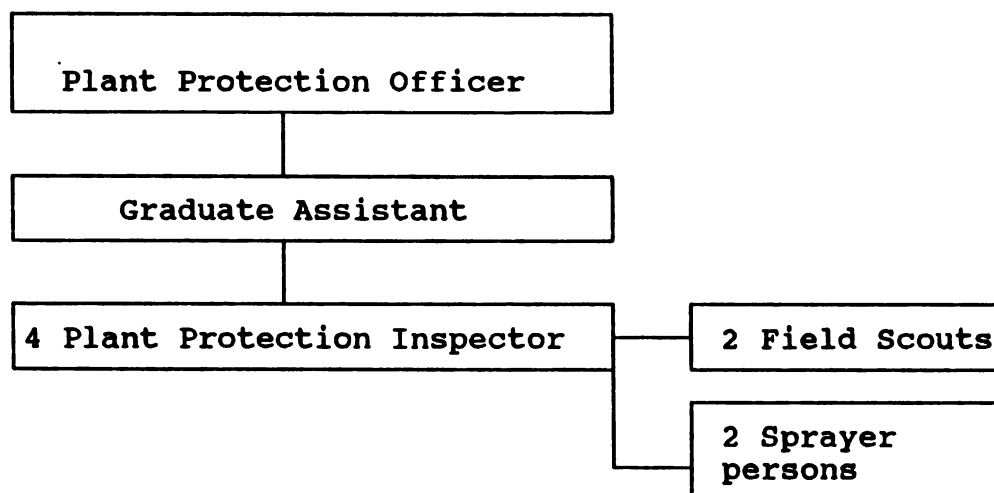


**PLANT PROTECTION SYSTEM
in Antigua and Barbuda**

by

**P Blanchette
Plant Protection Officer**

1. STRUCTURE



Personnel in Place

One (1) Plant Protection Officer (Acting)
One (1) Field Scout
Five (5) Plant Quarantine Inspectors
Two (2) Sprayer persons
One (1) Office Clerk

At present no Graduate Staff is in the Unit
Transport: One (1) double-cab pick-up truck

2. LEGISLATION

In force is a Plant Quarantine Regulation which dates to 1941.

A study is being made of Dominica Plant Quarantine Regulations which is based on FAO model in order to update the Regulations for Antigua and Barbuda.

3. QUARANTINE

3.1 Inspection

Scouting of cotton-growing areas is done in search of pests - Pink Boll, Weevil, Bug and Lepidopteras. Immediate spraying is done if any of the above pests is sighted.

A monthly roster system is in operation for manning ports at V.C. Bird Airport Cargo Warehouse and Deepwater Harbour, from 8.00 am to 10.00 pm. At the Point Wharf, the port where the island Schooners unload, inspections are made on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

3.2 Import/Export

Import licences are issued by the Director of Agriculture. Phytosanitary certificates are issued by the Plant Protection Officer, the Plant Quarantine Inspectors and the Director of Agriculture.

3.3 Public Awareness

Announcements are made out on the Radio and the Television stations whenever there is an emergency.

3.4 Problems

- 1) There is no incinerator. Presently confiscated material is destroyed using old tyres.
- 2) There is no graduate person on staff.
- 3) Recommendations have been made for equipping all plant quarantine inspectors with such tools like hand lens, torchlights, and the like.

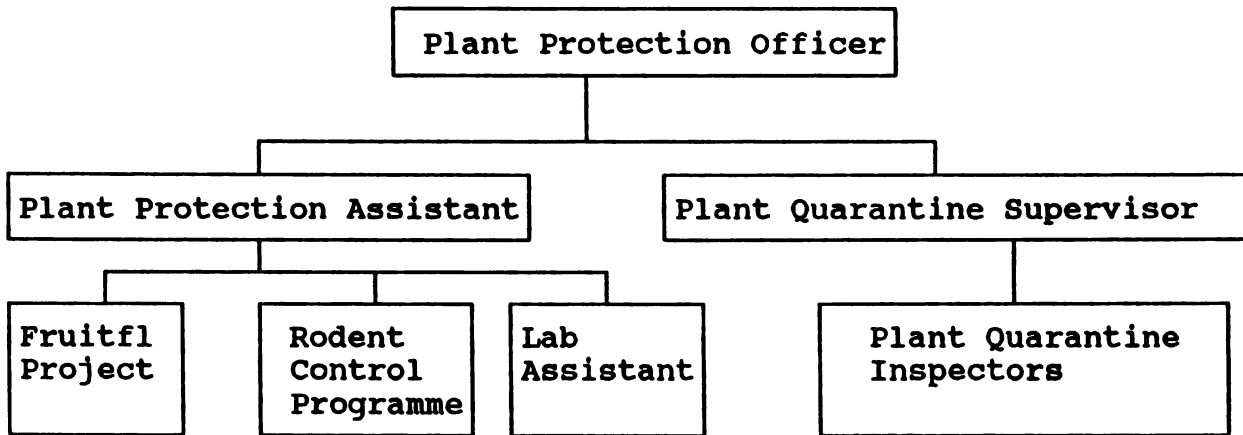
**PLANT PROTECTION SYSTEM
in Dominica**

by

**Charles Pierre
Plant Protection Officer**

The Plant Quarantine System in Dominica is headed by a Plant Protection Officer, in charge of the entire Plant Protection Unit. He is assisted by a Plant Quarantine Supervisor who supervises the plant quarantine inspectors.

1. STRUCTURE



2. LEGISLATION:

There is a Plant Protection and Quarantine Act 1986. This act provides for the protection of the agricultural resources of Dominica from dangerous pests and diseases. The act is based on the FAO model and some of the sections included are as follows:

- Provisions for the development of regulations
- Prevention of the spread of plant pests within the country
- Establishment of the plant protection and quarantine services with authority
- Establishment and functions of a Board
- Penalties for non compliance with regulations

Since then, draft regulations have been submitted for approval and parliamentary enactment.

3. QUARANTINE
3.1 Inspection
3.1.1 Field

Field inspections are not carried out by the Plant Quarantine Inspectors. The supervisor who is also knowledgeable in other Plant Protection matters usually forms part of the Plant protection team visiting farms/plots and organising farmer advisory clinics dealing with phytosanitary concerns.

3.1.2 Ports

There are five ports on the island and four have plant quarantine inspectors assigned to them on a permanent basis. At the airports passenger baggage is inspected and phytosanitary certificates are issued to persons exporting plant products.

Twice weekly visits are made to the main harbours where the produce is inspected and a phytosanitary certificate issued.

There is no boarding of ships and planes to ensure compliance with existing quarantine measures.

3.2 Import/Export

For import - Applications for permits to import plants and plant products should be made four (4) weeks in advance, in writing and addressed to the Plant Protection and Quarantine Unit - Dominica.

Phytosanitary certificates are required for the export of all plant products produced from Dominica.

3.3 Public Awareness Campaign

The radio through the programmes run by the Information Unit of the Division of Agriculture is an important source for the dissemination of information to the public.

There is currently a programme of quarterly lectures arranged for the members of the Dominica Hucksters Association in order to increase their awareness on their role in maintaining and observing required quarantine practices and to build a better working relationship with the Quarantine Inspectors.

PLANT QUARANTINE SYSTEM
in Grenada

by

Dale Francis-Ellis
Pest Management Officer

1. STRUCTURE

Pest Management Officer	- 1
Plant Quarantine/Crop Protection Officers	- 7
Laboratory Technician	- 1
Agricultural Instructor (1 in Carriacou)	- 2
Fruit Fly trappers	- 2
Total	-13

Plant Quarantine Personnel

- Eight officers were trained at Maryland, USA, including one from Veterinary Division.
- One officer received training at the Seaports and Airport at Miami, Florida.
- In October of 1986 a training course on Plant Quarantine was held in Grenada, there were twenty-four (24) participants including Customs and Marketing Personnel.

All officers were trained both in plant and animal quarantine.

2. QUARANTINE

2.1 Inspection Services

There is a full-time inspection service in place at the airport, with two (2) officers from the Pest Management Unit and two (2) from the Veterinary Division working on a shift system.

The two (2) seaports are serviced from Monday to Friday. No provision is made for weekends. The Yacht Basin is inspected at least once a week.

2.2 Import

All persons wishing to bring any agricultural produce into the country must obtain an Import Permit from the Pest Management

Unit at least one week in advance. Permits are issued by Plant Quarantine Officers.

2.3 Export

Agricultural products leaving the country are inspected by officers of the Unit and phytosanitary certificates are issued. For the huckster trade, officers visit the ports every Tuesday when agricultural produce are being shipped and phytosanitary certificates are issued.

3. LEGISLATION

The Plant Protection Act has been updated and Plant Quarantine Regulations are in place based on the FAO model.

4. SURVEY, MONITORING AND DIAGNOSTIC SERVICE

Fruit-fly Post-Survey Monitoring activities continue. Funds for these activities (by US-AID) will be depleted by June of 1989. The Ministry of Agriculture is expected to continue the programme.

Mango seed weevil surveys are carried out every year at the mango season (May - September).

Very little diagnostic service is being provided at the moment because of the lack of trained personnel. There is need for upgrading in this area.

5. PUBLIC AWARENESS

This includes

- Distribution of pamphlets
- Placement of posters at seaport and airport
- Articles in the Agricultural Newsletter "Grenadian Farmer"
- Interviews and announcements in Agricultural Radio Programmes

6. PROBLEMS AND CONSTRAINTS

- There is need for on-going training of officers of the Ministry, Customs, Port Authority, and other personnel.
- There is need for more public awareness programmes
- There is need for disposal facilities at the Seaport

PLANT PROTECTION SYSTEM
in St Lucia

by

Guy Mathurin
Crop Protection Officer

1. ORGANIZATION

The Plant Protection Unit in St Lucia falls under the Research Division. It is headed by a Senior Crop Protection Officer who is assisted by two Crop Protection Officers (CPO), one of whom is presently on study leave. The CPO's in turn are assisted by four Crop Protection Assistants (CPA), one of whom is also on study leave. The Unit is assisted in plant quarantine duties in the South and Southwest of the Island by one Extension Officer and the Manager of the Plant Propagation Station respectively.

2. LEGISLATION

The present legislation came into effect in 1942 and is greatly inadequate, but it still provides the authority to carry out plant protection duties. A new plant protection legislation is at the bill stage before Parliament and it is hoped that it would become law by the end of the year (1988). The new legislation is based on the FAO model which has been circulated throughout the region. It provides for the formation of a Plant Protection Board which will carry out functions such as making orders or regulations, declaration of notifiable plant pests, determine the status of plant material being offered for importation into St Lucia and oversee the management, operation and physical requirements of the plant quarantine service.

3. INSPECTION

3.1 Field

In the field, inspection of plant pests and disease problems is mainly done as a response to reports of problems encountered by farmers, extension officers, or the public. This is done as soon as possible after receiving the report, and the best diagnosis possible is made using the assistance of resource personnel from Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), IICA and Windward Island Banana Growers Association (WINBAN).

In order to carry out more effective identification of pests in the field, a library is currently being established so that recognition of any new introductions will be expedited and made easier.

3.2 Ports

St Lucia has seven ports of entry. In the north are Rodney Bay, Castries Port and Vigie airport. Marigot Bay and Soufriere harbour are in the west. Hewanorra International Airport and the Vieux-Fort docks in the south of the island. Castries Port and Vigie airport are visited daily by the two Crop Protection Assistants. While all the other ports are serviced on notification from customs officials. Normally, the plant products are detained by the Customs Department until they are examined by the Plant Quarantine Officers.

3.3 Import

A permit is required from the Plant Protection Unit if plant material is to be imported into St Lucia. This permit is issued or denied after the pest risk, based on available information, has been assessed. This will be a major function of the Plant Protection Board to be formed under the new Plant Protection legislation. Other plant material (e.g. foodstuffs) is required to be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate which in certain cases must contain specific additional declarations.

Plant material which is imported into the island as part of passenger luggage may or may not be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate. The material is detained by officers of the Customs Department and is subsequently examined by a Plant Quarantine Officer. Entry of such material is determined on factors such as its origin, condition and presence of pest or disease.

3.4 Export

Plant material offered for export is usually inspected by a Plant Quarantine Officer at the Head office in Castries, at the field stations in the north, south and southwest, or at the packing site before shipment. Every effort is made to ensure that the material is clean, free from soil, pests and diseases and if necessary, treated before shipment. Also every effort is made to ensure that the plant material meets the requirements of the importing country as far as the information in hand will permit.

4. PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The Agricultural Information Unit has been assisting the Unit in informing the public about common vegetable and crop pests and diseases. To supplement the process of updating the plant protection legislation, the decision has been taken to initiate an intensive publicity campaign on Plant Quarantine, starting next April 1989.

The following actions have been taken: to sensitize various target groups about plant quarantine posters placed at the ports of entry; school visits are made; farmers talks; a National Plant Quarantine Course (participants included Shippers and Ports, Police and Customs officials; Ministry of Agriculture personnel) newspaper articles published and fruit fly survey posters were posted islandwide. The unfortunate locust arrival in the region has also given our public awareness a shot in the arm. Numerous pesticides safety talks and seminars are directed at all sectors of the population, but especially at farmers and persons coming in contact with pesticides, have been conducted.

5. PROBLEMS AND CONSTRAINTS

From what has already been mentioned, it may be seen that there are considerable shortcomings in St Lucia plant protection system. Staffing must be mentioned first because there is definitely not enough manpower to carry out all the plant protection activities effectively. A main need is assistants to help service ports and perform quarantine duties on the whole, in addition to carrying out surveys, trials and laboratory work.

A second and associated need is adequate financing of those important activities. Thirdly, insufficient facilities, and fourthly, inadequately trained personnel. It would also be necessary for the Unit to be adequately informed about international and especially regional Plant Protection and Quarantine matters.

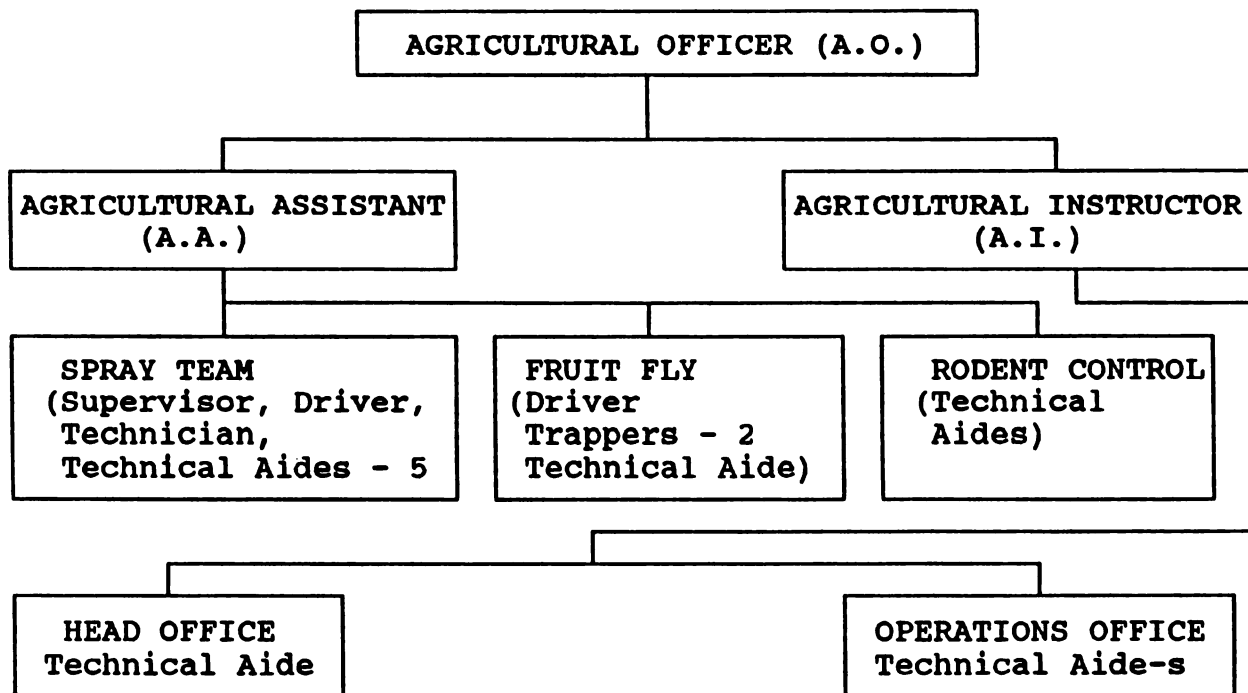


THE PLANT PROTECTION SYSTEM
in St Vincent and the Grenadines

by

Philmore Isaacs
Plant Protection Officer

1. ORGANIZATION



TOTAL: 19

Fig. 1. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF PLANT PROTECTION UNIT (PPU)

The schematic figure 1 above summarises the organizational structure of the Plant Protection Unit, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Agriculture, St Vincent and the Grenadines (MTIA). The responsibility and functions of the Unit can be classified as follows:

1. Supervisory and Training
2. Routine - Quarantine inspection
- Pest/Disease management
3. Special Projects: - Fruitfly monitoring
Rodent Control

The main supervising and training responsibilities rest with the Agricultural Officer who heads the Unit. There are three trained persons in the Unit one of whom is on study leave.

The Agricultural Instructor (untrained academically) has received inservice training in Plant Quarantine principles and inspection procedures. He was also involved in courses which dealt with the detection and identification of fruitflies and a citrus canker in the Dominican Republic, under the auspices of APHIS/USDA/PQ. He has had exposure to Integrated Pest Management techniques. He supervises the Rodent Control Pilot Project team besides sharing in other responsibilities as the need arises. In fact all three officers work interchangeably in carrying out the functions outlined above.

2. LEGISLATION:

The PPU is guided in the performance of its duties by three pieces of legislation:

- 1) The Plant Protection Ordinance, 1941. This law provides for the Prevention, Eradication and Control of diseases and pests affecting plants.

The law needs to be updated. For example Clause 2 subsection 16 identifies the Plant Quarantine Committee which should rule on the importation of planting materials into St Vincent and the Grenadines as the Committee of Management of the Plant Quarantine station, Trinidad.

- 2) The Exportation of Produce Ordinance 1959: By this law all agricultural produce leaving the country must be inspected by a quarantine inspector who then issues a Phytosanitary Certificate. Customs officers are obliged by this ordinance to refuse clearance of any boat with agricultural export which

has not secured the Phytosanitary certificate from the inspector for the produce on board.

A new Plant Protection law should synchronize these three aspects of Plant Protection , i.e. Prevention, Eradication and control of pests/diseases.

3) The Pesticides Control Act, 1973

By this act a Pesticides Board of Control is established to rule on matters of the manufacture, importation, distribution, sales and use of pesticides in St Vincent and the Grenadines. Like the other pieces of legislation this Act has never had the necessary regulations to accompany it.

3. QUARANTINE

3.1 Field

Field inspection is done but not systematically for all crops. The systematic surveillance is associated with the special projects, eg Fruitfly, IPM programme on pigeon pea pod borer; the monitoring of Maize (corn), sweet potatoes and peanuts for rodent damage during the Rodent Control Pilot Project. Other field inspections for pests/diseases are done at random as the officers make farm visits either on their own initiative or in response to farmers' requests.

3.2 Ports

Inspection at the Airport is done systematically with thrice daily visits to examine agricultural produce. Customs officers who make inspection of passengers' baggages hold any agricultural produce in one of three covered containers placed in the incoming lounge. These are inspected by plant quarantine officers on their visits. If a consignment is urgent or large the officer informs the MTIA and the Plant Quarantine Officer makes an unscheduled visit. Recently ten (10) Customs Officers received training in "Principles of Quarantine and Inspection Procedures". This is felt will enable them to handle small quantities of agricultural produce brought in by travellers from non high risk areas. Living plants and large consignments are still inspected by Plant Quarantine officers.

Inspection at the seaport is done on request or notification by the agency importing the produce. In as much as relatively large quantities of white potatoes, various legumes, onions, wheat and rice, grapes and apples are imported only in the case of the later is there a regular inspection by the Unit on board the ship. An unsatisfactory arrangement exists whereby customs release these goods following inspections by the

Environmental Officer. Recently some vegetables have been imported via/from Trinidad. These are systematically inspected by Plant Protection personnel.

3.3 Export/Import

Agricultural produce destined for export through the traffickers are inspected on the day of shipment and Phytosanitary certificates issued. Periodic inspection is made to the premises of other exporting agencies for inspection of their produce. A district supervisor inspects the plantation of a cut-flower exporter and issues phytosanitary certificates.

4. PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN:

All systems of the media have been used from time to time to make the public aware of the activities of the Unit and the public's expected role in helping to control pest/disease and prevent the introduction of exotic ones. Through the Ministry's weekly half hour programme "Farmers Magazine" information on all aspects of Plant Protection has been given. Posters on Bulletin Boards and other public places highlight some aspect of Plant Protection. Most recently some emphasis was given to Plant Quarantine and the fruitfly and mango seed weevil as potential pests.

5. PROBLEMS AND CONSTRAINTS:

- 1) Up-to-date laws and regulations are needed to redefine the role and powers of the Plant Protection Unit.
- 2) Information on the diagnosis/identification of pests/diseases of the major crops will greatly enhance the unit's performance.
- 3) Laboratory facilities in which simple diagnostic/identification research can be performed are needed.
- 4) In country holding facility is urgent where it is evident that substantial quantities of planting material is being and will be brought into the state for dissemination.
- 5) Need for clarification of the role of Environmental Health Officers vis a vis Plant Quarantine inspectors at the sea port.
- 6) Increase in the number of Plant Protection personnel at the trained level will improve the quality of the service the Unit now offers.

RECOMMENDATIONS



MEETING OF THE PLANT PROTECTION UNIT HEADS OF OECS

16th November, 1988

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PLANT PROTECTION SYSTEM

I: ORGANIZATION

1. That there be an amalgamation of the Plant and Animal Quarantine Inspection System at the various ports of entr{.
2. That Customs Officers be so trained and motivated that they will serve as first defence in the inspection of small quantities of Agricultural Products brought in by travelling passengers.
3. That port inspection service be organised by a country according to resources available in the country and should not be a burden to the country's economic resources. Thus whilst having a quarantine Officer stationed at a port may be the ideal situation, daily visits and visits when required as requested by customs, shipping agents and the public is as effective and less costly. The quarantine officer can be utilized to do something else between port visits.

II: LEGISLATION

1. That member territories up-date their Plant Protection Ordinance after the FAO model. And that where this has been done accompanying regulations be drawn up.

III: INSPECTION

1. That customs declaration forms be instituted and that these forms include a declaration on agricultural products.
2. That shipments of Agricultural products rejected in one OECS territory, for Plant Quarantine reasons, be reported immediately to the CARICOM Secretariat and IICA Trinidad and Tobago which will in turn notify OECS Member States.

3. That more emphasis/weight be placed on the value of import permit as compared to phytosanitary certificates, but that the inspection of the goods at their destination should not be overlooked.
4. That there be put in place at various ports facilities to store and dispose of perishable plant materials intercepted. Other general equipment necessary for the functioning of the Plant Quarantine system be available.
5. An emergency preparedness programme should be developed to enable immediate and effective response in the event of new pest or disease introductions.

IV: PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

1. That flyers be developed and used through travel agents to alert the travelling public on plant quarantine.
2. That there be instituted a concerted effort to make the Public aware of the importance of Plant and Animal Quarantine.

V: TRAINING

1. That the present training needs of member territories be assessed and that there be some relevance and continuity to this training bearing in mind the rapid turn over of staff within the territories.
2. That the content of this training be tailored to satisfy the needs of the territories in Plant Quarantine.

VI: COLLABORATION

1. That the CARICOM Secretariat be notified of the concerns of the Plant Protection Units and that focus be given to Quarantine in the development of the Regional Agricultural Programme.
2. That there be developed mechanism(s) for the free flow of information on Plant Protection matters between member territories.



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