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INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION ON AGRICULTURE
- IICA OFFICE IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

REPORT ON THE FIRST REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON THE DIAGNOSIS
OF PLANT PESTS AND DISEASES OF FOOD CROPS
HELD AT THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
FROM JULY 7TH - 12TH, 1986

by

Dr. Chelston W.D. Brathwaite
Regional Plant Protection Specialist and
Director of the IICA Office in Trinidad and Tobago

IICA



PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
September, 1986

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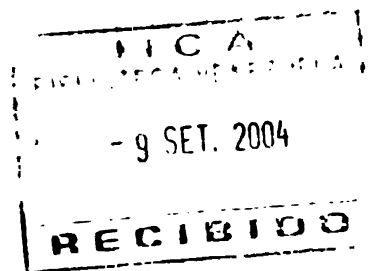
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**REPORT ON THE FIRST REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE
ON THE DIAGNOSIS OF PLANT PESTS
AND DISEASES OF FOOD CROPS
HELD AT THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE,
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
FROM JULY 7th - 12th, 1986.**



The first - regional training course on the diagnosis of plant pests and diseases of food crops in the Caribbean was held from July 7th to 11th, 1986 at the St. Augustine Campus of the University of the West Indies.

The scope, objectives and justification for the course were as follows:-

Objectives

1. To increase the level of skills of persons responsible for the diagnosis and control of plant pests and diseases in the Caribbean.
2. To provide the basis for the development of a Manual on the Diagnosis of Plant Pests and Diseases in the Caribbean.

Justification

Losses due to plant pests and diseases are high in the Caribbean region and act as limiting factors in success of many crop production enterprises. The inability to properly diagnose common plant pest and disease problems in the field is recognised as one of the major limiting factors in the effective control of plant pests and diseases in the Caribbean.

Scope

The course emphasized the practical techniques which are required for correct pest and disease diagnosis and utilized local examples in the laboratory and in the field. The course lasted for one week and was led by specialists in pest and disease diagnosis and control from the University of the West Indies, Faculty of Agriculture, the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production, IICA and other regional and national organizations. The course was conducted in English.

The course was declared open by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production Dr. E. Patrick Alleyne who expressed the need for such courses and congratulated the sponsors for initiating the course.

Professor John Spence, acting for the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture also made some opening remarks and welcomed participants to the University.

The Regional Plant Protection Specialist and Director of the IICA office presented an address which is reproduced at pages 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13.

The course was attended by 32 participants including representatives from Barbados, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Lucia and Dominica as listed on pages 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20. The list of lecturers are given at pages 21 and 22.

The course was evaluated by the participants and summary of their comments is presented on pages 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29.

The closing session of the course was held at the Faculty of Agriculture on July 11th and programme of the closing session is shown on page 31.

Dr. Federico Dao, Director of IICA plant protection programme attending the closing session and made some final remarks on IICA'S Animal and Plant Health Programme.

Dr. Dao and Dr. E. Patrick Alleyne presented certificates of attendance to all participants.

In collaboration with the Information and Training Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production, the material presented during the course is being used to prepare a video cassette on the diagnosis of plant pest and diseases in the Caribbean for use as a teaching tool in other countries of the region.

NEWS PAPER CLIPPINGS FROM THE REGIONAL COURSE

Page 14 TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, Monday July 7, 1986

Course on diagnosis of plant pests opens at UWI today

R. E. PATRICK ALLEYNE, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production, will officially open a one-week regional course on the diagnosis of plant pests and diseases of food crops at the St. Augustine campus of the University of the West Indies today at 9.00 a.m.

The course, which is being sponsored by the Trinidad and Tobago branch of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production and the Faculty of Agriculture, University of the West Indies, is designed to improve the skills of persons responsible for the diagnosis and control of plant pests and diseases of food crops.

The course is being held against the background of increased losses due to plant pests and diseases in the Caribbean which limit the success of food crop production.

The inability to properly diagnose

common plant pest and disease problems in the field is recognised as one of the major limiting factors in the effective control of plant pests and diseases in the Caribbean.

The course will seek to emphasise the practical techniques required for correct pest and disease diagnosis and will utilise local examples in the laboratory and in the field.

The course will be led by the specialists in pests and disease diagnosis and control from the University of the West Indies, the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production, IICA and other regional and national organisations.

Participants will be from Haiti, Suriname, Guyana, Jamaica, Grenada, St. Lucia, Dominica and Barbados. In addition there will be several local participants from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Food and Agriculture Corporation, UWI, Caroni (1975) Limited and agricultural organisations.

Page 14 TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, Tuesday July 22, 1986

Move to control plant pests

EARLY establishment of plant pathology diagnostic laboratories in each of the member territory represented at the recently-concluded training programme entitled "Diagnosis and Control of Pests and Disease Problems of Food Crops in the Caribbean", is likely to be the first tangible benefit to be achieved.

the use of improved diagnostic and control techniques both in the field and laboratory.

This was the general consensus expressed at the closing session of the programme at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine.

Dr. Frederico Dao, Director, Plant Protection Programme, Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA) and Dr. Chelston Brathwaite, IICA's Regional Director, were present to hear participants speak in glowing terms of the usefulness and relevance of the programme, the first of its type conducted in the Caribbean.

It was felt that several areas of application could be pursued which could result in

TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, Friday July 4, 1986 Page 3

Plant pests

A ONE week regional course on the diagnosis of plant pests and diseases of food crops, will open on Monday to help decrease losses in the Caribbean due to an inability to spot problems.

The course will be opened by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture Lands and Food Production, Dr. E. Patrick Alleyne at the Faculty of Agriculture University of the West Indies starting at 9 a.m.

The seminar has been sponsored by the Inter-American Institute for

Co-operation on Agriculture (IICA) the Ministry of Agriculture and the Faculty of Agriculture.

MONDAY, 7TH JULY, 1986

8.00	-	9.00 a.m.	REGISTRATION	
9.00	-	10.00 a.m.	OPENING CEREMONY	
			Chairman:	Dr. Ronald Barrow Director of Research Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production Trinidad and Tobago
			Introductory Remarks:	Dr. Chelston W.D. Brathwaite Director IICA Office in Trinidad and Tobago
				Dr. Frank Gumbs Dean, Faculty of Agriculture University of the West Indies Trinidad and Tobago
				Dr. E. Patrick Alleyne Permanent Secretary Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production Trinidad and Tobago
10.00	-	10.30 a.m.	COFFEE BREAK	
10.30	-	12 noon	The Principles and Importance of Plant Pest and Disease Diagnosis	Dr. Chelston W.D. Brathwaite IICA
12 noon	-	1.00 p.m.	LUNCH	
1.00	-	3.00 p.m.	The Diagnosis and control of field problems caused by Insects and Mites	Dr. Gene V. Pollard Entomologist, University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago
3.00	-	3.30 p.m.	COFFEE BREAK	
3.30	-	5.00 p.m.	The Diagnosis and control of field problems caused by Insects and Mites (cont'd)	Dr. Gene V. Pollard

TUESDAY, 8TH JULY, 1986

8.00	-	10.00 a.m.	The Diagnosis and control of Weed problems of Food Crops	Dr. Richard A.I. Brathwaite Agronomist, University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago
10.00	-	10.30 a.m.	COFFEE BREAK	
10.30	-	12 noon	The Diagnosis and control of Weed problems of Food Crops (cont'd)	Dr. Richard A.I. Brathwaite
12 noon	-	1.00 p.m.	LUNCH	
1.00	-	3.00 p.m.	The Diagnosis and control of field problems caused by Fungi	Dr. Fritz Elango, Plant Pathologist University of the West Indies Trinidad and Tobago
3.00	-	3.30 p.m.	COFFEE BREAK	
3.30	-	5.00 p.m.	The Diagnosis and control of field problems caused by Fungi (cont'd)	Dr. Fritz Elango

WEDNESDAY, 9TH JULY, 1986

8.00	-	10.00 a.m.	The Diagnosis and control of field problems caused by Bacteria	Miss Cynthra Persad Plant Pathologist Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production, Trinidad and Tobago
10.00	-	10.30 a.m.	COFFEE BREAK	
10.30	-	12 noon	The Diagnosis and control of field problems caused by Bacteria (cont'd)	Miss Cynthra Persad
12 noon	-	1.00 p.m.	LUNCH	
1.00	-	3.00 p.m.	The Diagnosis and control of Plant Nematode problems	Mr. George Bala, Nematologist Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production, Trinidad and Tobago

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WEDNESDAY, 9TH JULY, 1986 (Cont'd)

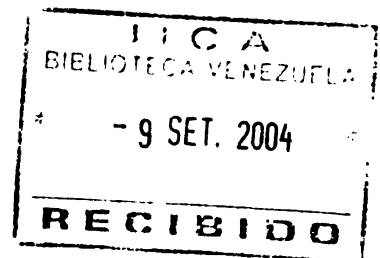
- 3.00 - 3.30 p.m. COFFEE BREAK
- 3.30 - 5.00 p.m. The Diagnosis and control of Plant Nematode problems (cont'd) Mr. George Bala

THURSDAY, 10TH JULY, 1986

- 8.00 - 10.00 a.m. The Diagnosis and control of Nutrient Deficiency problems Dr. Selwyn Griffith, Soil Chemist University of the West Indies Trinidad and Tobago
- 10.00 - 10.30 a.m. COFFEE BREAK
- 10.30 - 12 noon The Diagnosis and control of Nutrient Deficiency problems (cont'd) Dr. Selwyn Griffith
- 12 noon - 1.00 p.m. LUNCH
- 1.00 - 3.00 p.m. The Diagnosis and control of problems caused by Plant Viruses Dr. Syed Haque, Virologist Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) Trinidad and Tobago
- 3.00 - 3.30 p.m. COFFEE BREAK
- 3.30 - 5.00 p.m. The Diagnosis and control of problems caused by Plant Viruses (cont'd) Dr. Syed Haque

FRIDAY, 11TH JULY, 1986

- 7.45 - 12 noon Field Trip to Aranguez and Mocoya
- 12 noon - 2.00 p.m. LUNCH
- 2.00 - 4.00 p.m. Centeno Diagnostic Laboratories
- 7.00 - 9.00 p.m. Evaluation and Presentation of Certificates



AN ADDRESS PRESENTED BY DR. CHELSTON W.D. BRATHWAITE
REGIONAL PLANT PROTECTION SPECIALIST AND DIRECTOR OF
THE IICA OFFICE IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO TO THE FIRST
SEMINAR ON THE DIAGNOSIS OF PLANT PESTS AND DISEASES
OF FOOD CROPS HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
ST. AUGUSTINE FROM JULY 7TH TO 12TH, 1986.

On behalf of the Director General of IICA, I am pleased to say that our Institute is proud to be associated with the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of the West Indies and the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production in sponsoring this first regional course on the recognition and diagnosis of pests and diseases of food crops in the Caribbean.

Our Institute attaches great importance to collaborative efforts designed to reduce losses from plant pests and diseases in the hemisphere and in 1980 the Institute established a Hemispheric Plant Protection Programme to assist member states in attending to the problems of pest and disease in agriculture.

In accordance with IICA's basic strategy, the programme is directed towards strengthening national and regional efforts being carried out by other organizations. It is designed to support, coordinate and collaborate with other international, regional and subregional institutions working in this area and in no case will duplicate or replace existing institutions.

The programme recognises that the spread of pests, diseases and weeds that affect basic food and export crops aggravate the food, foreign exchange and energy needs of Latin American and Caribbean countries. Coordinated International action can contribute to reducing the spreading and incidence of these pests, weeds and diseases, since the individual capabilities of national plant protection institutions are usually limited by low levels of physical, human and financial

resources with which to attain their objectives.

General Objective of the Programme- To promote and support efforts of the countries to prevent and reduce crop losses caused by pests, diseases and weeds.

Specific Objectives of the Programme- To cooperate with countries in expanding and improving their institutional capability to:

- a. Update and standardize national and international legal provisions and regulations governing plant protection.
- b. Identify, detect and estimate the damage caused by the main crop pests, diseases and weeds.
- c. Plan, coordinate and implement programmes for reducing the incidence and preventing the spread of main crop pests, diseases and weeds.
- d. Plan, coordinate and implement research and technical exchange programmes on crop pests, diseases and weeds.
- e. Generate mechanisms for upgrading the physical, human and financial resources of plant protection institutions, according to the levels of responsibility that have been assigned to them.

Strategy of the Programme- To promote and support:

- a. The updating and standardization of national and international legal provisions and regulations governing plant protection (quarantine and pesticides).

- b. The formulation, implementation and evaluation of multinational projects that involve economically important pests and diseases of mutual interest to several countries.
- c. The formulation, implementation and evaluation of high-priority projects at the national level.
- d. The use of technical and human resources from other IICA programmes, from CATIE, and from national and international institutions with experience in this field.
- e. The operational and technical reinforcement of national and international institutions working in this field (OIRSA, FAO, CIP, NAPPO, CIAT, CIMMYT).
- f. Coordination with other international agencies.
- g. The organization and promotion of meetings, seminars and other events for consultation and orientation to establish working guidelines and priorities for action.
- h. The organization of scientific associations for plant protection, that can provide a forum for studying plant health problems in the countries, the subregions and the hemisphere.
- i. The participation of Farmers' organizations, field workers and rural population in campaigns to control pests and diseases, as well as in quarantine measures.

The Heads of Plant Protection of IICA Member States in the Caribbean met in San José, Costa Rica from the 15th - 17th August, 1979, and again from July 27th- 29th, 1980 in Barbados. The objectives of these meetings were to formulate a plan of action for the Caribbean within the Hemispheric Plant Protection Programme.

The Meeting in Barbados had as its objectives:

1. To analyse the programme objective to make them more precise, more limited in scope and more realistic in relation to the financial resources of IICA.
2. To establish lines of priority from among the various proposals made at the meeting in Costa Rica.
3. To establish mechanisms for coordination with Regional and International Plant Protection Organizations.

The result of this meeting formed the basis for the orientation of the programme at the Regional level. The priorities identified included:

1. Training courses in Plant Quarantine and General Plant Protection.
2. Strengthening post entry Quarantine facilities.
3. Control and eradication of new pests and diseases.
4. Establishment of a Society for Plant Protection in the Caribbean.
5. Establishment of a Regional Newsletter.

The programme recognised the existence of several institutions concerned with plant protection in the Caribbean, These include:

- The Commonwealth Institute of Biological Control with its track record in the biological control of pests.

- The Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) with its work in research and its outreach activities in several of the islands.

- The Faculty of Agriculture of the University of the West Indies with its research and teaching capabilities.

- Plant Protection divisions of the various Ministries of Agriculture.

The programme, however, recognized that there was no agency that provided a formal mechanism for coordination and cooperation in plant protection and that reciprocal technical cooperation which is so vital in the region because of the lack of plant protection capability in some of the smaller territories and the limited human and financial resources available was not being fostered.

The programme also responded to the need for (1) information on pest and disease control and (2) lack of professional stimulation among professionals in Ministries of Agriculture, lack of access to Scientific journals and lack of trained sub-professionals in plant protection and plant quarantine.

This programme has so far made the following contributions to plant protection in the Caribbean:

1. Establishment of a Newsletter.

2. Training in Plant Quarantine.
3. Studies in Plant Quarantine and Pesticides.
4. Production of Several publications.

Today we initiate another step by co-sponsoring this training course on diagnosis.

We are firmly convinced that improvement of the human resources of our countries is the surest long term strategy for the improvement of food production, food security and human welfare. We are committed to fostering any effort which will curtail our huge food import bill and save foreign exchange for our countries.

Finally we believe that cooperative efforts such as these courses strengthen the bonds of regionalism and allows us to go forward more aware of each other's problems and united in our common quest to find practical and economic solutions.

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) is grateful for the support, cooperation and spirit of willingness which we have enjoyed in the planning of this course from members of the University Faculty of Agriculture and the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production and we look forward to continued cordial relations.

May I take this opportunity to welcome all of you and on behalf of IICA to wish those of you from abroad a pleasant stay in Trinidad and Tobago. I hope that the course which we will present to you will be a stimulating and rewarding experience.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

NAME	ORIGIN
1. Mr. Ramchan Balroop	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
2. Mrs. Ann Beddoe	U.W.I. - Trinidad
3. Mr. Boysie Beharylal	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
4. Mr. Camodin Boodoo	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
5. Mr. Ophny Carvil	Ministry of Agriculture - Haiti
6. Mr. Eric Emmanuel	F.A.C. - Trinidad
7. Miss Dale Francis	Ministry of Agriculture - Grenada
8. Mr. Sarran Harryram	U.W.I. - Trinidad
9. Miss Gail Henry	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
10. Miss Gillian James	Ministry of Agriculture - St. Lucia
11. Mr. Raymond John	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
12. Mr. Phillip Jordan	Caroni (1975) Limited - Trinidad
13. Mrs. Jann Joseph	U.W.I. - Trinidad
14. Mr. Alimuddin Juman	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
15. Mr. Liaquat Khan	CIBA-GEIGY - Trinidad
16. Mr. Carl Lara	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad

NAME	ORIGIN
17. Mr. Faizal Mohammed	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
18. Mr. Sundar Narinesingh	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
19. Miss Sita Parbu	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
20. Mr. Michael Philip	Ministry of Agriculture - Barbados
21. Mr. Seunarine Raghoo	Caroni (1975) Limited - Trinidad
22. Miss Vidyah Rambaran	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
23. Mr. Deodath Ramjattan	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
24. Mr. Jairaj Ramkissoon	U.W.I. - Trinidad
25. Mr. Sahadeo Ramlogan	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
26. Mr. Llewelyn Rhodes	Ministry of Agriculture - Jamaica
27. Mr. Michael Thomas	Ministry of Agriculture - Dominica
28. Mr. Tikaram Guyadeen	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
29. Miss Jenifer Williams	F.A.C. - Trinidad
30. Mr. Osbert Williams	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
31. Mr. Dhaneish Ramdin	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad
32. Mr. Roy Griffith	Ministry of Agriculture - Trinidad

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LIST OF LECTURERS

NAME	ADDRESS
Dr. Richard Brathwaite	Department of Crop Science The University of the West Indies St. Augustine Trinidad and Tobago
Dr. Chelston Brathwaite	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture Pannell Kerr Forster Building Orange Grove Road Tacarigua Trinidad and Tobago
Mr. George Bala	Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production Central Experiment Station Centeno, Via Arima Post Office Trinidad and Tobago
Dr. Fritz Elango	Department of Plant Science & Biochemistry The University of the West Indies St. Augustine Trinidad and Tobago
Dr. Selwyn Griffith	Department of Soil Science The University of the West Indies St. Augustine Trinidad and Tobago
Dr. Syed Haque	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute The University of the West Indies Campus St. Augustine Trinidad and Tobago

VIDEO CREW

Mr. Robert Gonsalves - Ministry of Agriculture-Trinidad
Mr. Donstan Groome - Ministry of Agriculture-Trinidad
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PHOTOGRAPHER

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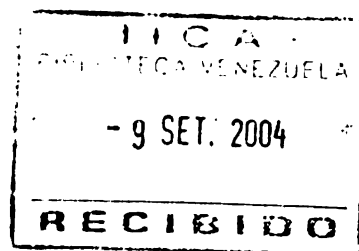
Miss Doreen Stewart - IICA-Trinidad
Miss Urhonda Alexander - IICA-Trinidad

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EVALUATION OF A REGIONAL COURSE ON THE
DIAGNOSIS OF PLANT PESTS AND DISEASES
OF FOOD CROPS IN THE CARIBBEAN - HELD
IN TRINIDAD FROM JULY 7-12, 1986

1. General Organization of the course

Poor	--
Good	39.3%
Excellent	60.7%



Areas for improvement

- Course should be extended to two weeks
- More time should be spent in the lab
- The time lectures should terminate
- More time should be given for lectures
- Analyse target groups - perhaps personnel from shops who are in contact with farmers should be invited, since these people often make recommendations based on wrong diagnosis
- More courses of this nature should be carded
- Sessions could possible be shorter (1½ hours)
- Too much information for one week
- Need more detail approach in certain areas
- More discussions on actual personal experiences
- Lecture time too short
- Choice of lectures - improved presentation
- Doing work on specific crops in detail
- Should be held for participants with more similar background
- Have these courses on a more regular basis
- Do invite a larger range of Caribbean countries
- Session on quarantine will be welcomed
- Less technical work
- Notes from each lecturer should be given to participants before the course begins to get them acquainted before-hand with the course material
- Lecturers should speak slowly so that the information could be understood and assimilated by the participants

2. Sequence, Organization and utility of field trip

Poor	--
Good	60.7%
Excellent	39.3%

Areas for improvement

- More Specialists on trip
- More time should be spent in the fields
- More field trips should have been planned
- A greater crop variety should have been included
- Field trip should start earlier in the morning
- An extension officer (Agriculture) should be present
- Students should have been allowed to carry out the investigative approach with the farmer, Following this, other participants should be allowed to make critical comments, before the lecturers make their input
- More active involvement of participants
- Participants should have prior knowledge of what is the need
- Better organization of field activities
- Adequate material for sample display (more variety of crop)
- Better back-up services (have all previous lecturers present at all field tours to explain their category)
- Two days field trip
- Crops included should be more grain legumes root crops and cereal and another vegetable growing area
- Some emphasis on rice (*Oryzae sativa*) is useful because of the increased interest in rice preparation in Trinidad
- Should have a field trip to look at fruits
- Visits should be organized to farms using different cropping systems
- The visit to the Research Station should be more comprehensive, including all relevant departments and personnel. The absence of the Entomologist at the Station during our visit was disappointing
- Participants should be reminded to take with them to the field equipment like a hand lens, knife, phials and polythene bags for the purpose of collecting and observing insects and other organisms
- Tools like a fork, spade cutlass and hand trowel for removing the plants with soil for nematode damage to roots
- More time should be spent in the field observing infested and infected material

4. Other suggestions for improving future courses.

- Since so much important information was imparted in these lectures, I think it would be of even greater benefit to the participants if the lecturers could make copies of their entire lectures and give them to the participants so that when they return to their respective work place they could go through these lectures more slowly and benefit from them to its fullest
- Course should be so organized that participants of a similar background and qualification be trained together
- The indepth technical data given should be limited
- Technical data relevant to field work and observations should be concentrated on
- There should be more practices relevant to field observations and work
- Future courses should be of a longer duration. This is to facilitate the greater amount of topics that can be dealt with.
- There should be more co-operation between the various islands with regards to recent developments in agriculture in the area. The course organizers can also try to organise a yearly convention of Agricultural field officers so that they can discuss this problem with each other
- Both the target group and the curriculum of the course should be more narrowly defined whether or not participants posses degrees or other advanced qualifications as against a diploma etc. The curriculum would therefore be designed with this in mind. The curriculum should be designed as more than a mere introduction, since field officers in particular need a more thorough grounding in the recognition of a large number of specific problems.
- Participants should be recalled to pursue the Pest Management course More coverage on field symptoms. Too much mycology. (Not suited for field ants)
- After lectures there should be a discussion period of about half-hour where experiences are shared and questions raised
- There should be more lab work coloured drawings, pictures or photographs
- Some of the lecturers could have found more on the identifying and control measures for the various pathogens in the field rather than on the isolation and identification in the lab
- Participants should be made to do more assignments not with the objective of evaluating the student, but ensuring that students really understand what was taught
- It probably would be beneficial to have participants form themselves into groups and interact as farmers and extension would have to do
- Participants should have been given more practice in laboratory procedure
- It would be good to spend more time at detecting through visual symptoms but lectures should (or would have to) present more disease materials especially those that might be mistaken for the various diseases or pests

- Participants should have been divided into smaller groups and given problems to diagnose
- Integrated control sessions would be welcome with extension techniques included
- Should concentrate on diseases of major crops eg. those of economic importance
- Distribution of the disease in the region
- Relate occurrence of disease to seasons wet vs dry
- Give adequate treatment to diseases that threaten the region eg. Black Sigatoka, coffee, rust. The interest of participants in Moko disease was obvious
- Courses should take the form lectures in the morning sessions and the entire afternoon sessions in practicals and laboratory, and that the day's programme should not go beyond 3.30 p.m.
- Lecturers should be given enough time to cover their subject matter with a greater input from students
- Some of the sessions (two) were really a little too technically oriented.
- Each topic deserves at least two days of lecture and practical so that it could be fully appreciated and understood
- The Extension Officer (Agriculture) should be present. This will serve to substantiate the answers given by the farmer in some respect. In situations like field trips the farmer tends to withhold information that he would normally give his Extension Officer
- The 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. schedule was demanding.
- Problems affecting plants in relation to water quality could be added to the course
- The question of Soil Quality could form the basis of another topic
- There is also the need to deal with specific crops especially the major crops grown throughout the Caribbean
- The degree of socialization should be given serious thought, because I felt given the time and opportunity I would have been able to show my Caribbean counterparts and some of my fellow Trinidadians the hospitality and areas of interest we are capable of and willing to impart
- More time should be spent discussing plant pest and disease signs and symptoms in individual crops, as it pertains to the tropics (West Indies). This would enable participants to appreciate under the different headings i.e. fungi, bacteria etc. what the symptoms are like
- In the lab sessions it would be more meaningful, if participants had more personalized attention from the people who are more versed in diagnosis of plant pest and diseases
- The use of visual aids can be encouraged
- Decrease the coffee break to a maximum of fifteen minutes so that class can terminate at 4.00 p.m.
- Starting time should be at 8.00 a.m. sharp each lecturer has a fair amount of work to cover in the specified time

- Course should be organized only for Extension Officers since they deal with farmers and field problems everyday. Absolutely all the information they get will be utilized as compared with another officer who works in a field station who would not have the opportunity to put anything into practice
- Courses like these should be kept at least twice a year so that most of the Extension Officers would be up-dated so that farmers would have more confidence in them and also in the Ministry of Agriculture, Extension Services

CLOSING OF SEMINAR ON DIAGNOSIS OF PESTS AND DISEASES OF FOOD CROPS

AGENDA

1. Introductory Remarks - Dr. Ronald Barrow
2. IICA's Perspective on Training Actions for 1986-1990 - Dr. Federico Dao
3. The Presentation of Certificates - Dr. Brathwaite to coordinate

Closing Remarks

4. Dr. E. Patrick Alleyne, Permanent Secretary
5. Representative of the Participants
6. Representative of the Lecturers - Dr. Richard Brathwaite
7. Vote of Thanks - Dr. Chelston Brathwaite

AGENDA

CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES ON BASIS OF NATURE AND DURATION OF FOOD CROPS

AGENDA

Dr. Ronald Brown

Interim Secretary

Dr. Fredrick D. ...

Dr. ...

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