



CARIBBEAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

P.O. Bag 212, University Campus, St Augustine, Trinidad, W.I.

Tel: 868-645-1205/7, 3573, 8120, 8121 Fax: 868-645-1208 Email: sking@cardi.org

PRESS RELEASE

April 22, 2008



CARDI Hosted Caribbean Flaming Hot Pepper Eating Contest



The Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), in collaboration with the University of the West Indies (UWI) hosted the first Caribbean flaming Hot Pepper Eating Contest on 19 April, 2008.

The contest was held, during the AgriTECH National Agricultural EXPO 2008 at the University Field Station, Mount Hope held 16-20th April, in Trinidad and Tobago.

The hot pepper eating contest, an initiative by CARDI, is the first of its kind to be held in the Caribbean. It showcased and highlighted its role and contribution to the development of a sustainable Caribbean hot pepper industry.

Contestants were tasked with the daunting challenge of eating as many chopped hot peppers as possible along with salt biscuits and water within fifteen minutes. Hot pepper varieties included Scorpion, Hood, Faria, Tiger Teeth, Scotch Bonnet, West Indies Red, CARDI Green, Seven Pod and Big Sun. Most of them are Caribbean landraces; those which are not, have Caribbean germplasm in their parentage.

Taking the top prize was Peter Farrell who ploughed his way through 58 flaming grams; Adrian Boodan in second place munched 29 fiery grams; Arlene Joseph, in third spot managed 7 blazing grams, and Dr Indar Ramnarine secured the fourth position by putting away 6 hot grams. The four brave intrepid winners received prizes; the top prize was a hamper from National Canners, second prize was a farmers spray can from Caribbean Chemicals. Third and fourth prizes were a hamper from Chief and Turban respectively, and a Food Basket from the National Agricultural Marketing and Development Company (NAMDEVCO), respectively.

Visitors to the Institute's booth familiarised with CARDI on its extensive research activities in the areas of hot pepper, sweet potato, small ruminants, organic agriculture and integrated pest management. These were highlighted from among the many programmes of CARDI.

For more information please contact Selwyn E King: 868-645-1205/7 Email: sking@cardi.org (9/08)

**Offices in: Antigua & Barbuda • Barbados • Belize • Dominica • Grenada • Guyana • Jamaica •
Montserrat • St Kitts & Nevis • St Lucia • St Vincent & the Grenadines • Trinidad & Tobago •**