CARDI Barbados hosted the first Public Consultations on Climate Change and Agriculture at the Radisson Aquatica Resort on June 7, 2013. Carlos Fuller, International and Regional Liaison Officer at the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC), Belize, facilitated the session. Fuller discussed the science of climate change and the impacts of it on the Caribbean’s agricultural sector. He also highlighted past and ongoing initiatives towards reducing the negative impacts of climate change. Studies have shown that in Belize a 2°C increase in temperature and a change in rainfall of +/- 20% could result in a decline of beans by 14 and 19%, rice by 10 and 14% and corn by 22 and 17%. The projected negative impacts on agricultural productivity is indeed worrying. Some of the policy adaptation options advocated for at the Consultation were: indigenous knowledge conservation, harnessing solar power, assessing consumer receptivity to new varieties, engaging in interagency partnerships and donor funded projects to combat climate change. Representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, international development agencies, farmers groups, processors and students participated at the consultations.

Two CARDI countries recognised for their fight against hunger

Guyana and St Vincent and the Grenadines are among 38 countries that have met the internationally established targets ahead of the 2015 deadline, in the fight against hunger. The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) announced that both countries were among 18 others that have achieved Millennium Development Goal 1 (MDG 1) and the World Food Summit (WFS) Goal. The other 20 countries only met the MDG 1. Recognition in both cases was based on hunger reduction achieved between 1990-92 and 2010-2012. The WFS goal of “halving the absolute number of hungry people by 2015” was established in 1996 when 180 countries met at FAO Headquarters in Rome to discuss ways to end hunger. The MDG 1 “to halve the proportion of hungry people by 2015” was later established by the international community at the United Nations General Assembly in 2000 in New York. A recognition ceremony was held on June 16 at FAO Headquarters, Guyana was represented by Prime Minister Samuel A.A Hinds whilst Prime Minister Ralph Gonzalves represented St. Vincent and the Grenadines. All 38 countries were awarded Diplomas for their early achievements.
All set for joint CFCS/CAES/ISHS meeting

Everything is ready for the largest Caribbean gathering of the year of International Agricultural Scientists. The joint meeting of the Caribbean Food Crops Society (CFCS), Caribbean Agro-Economic Society (CAES) and International Society of the Horticultural Sciences takes place from 30th June to 6th July, 2013 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Port of Spain, Trinidad. Co-hosts are the Trinidad and Tobago Ministry of Food Production and the University of the West-Indies (St Augustine Campus). The theme of the event is “Agribusiness Essential for Food Security: Empowering Youth and Enhancing Quality Products”. The Opening Ceremony on Sunday 30th June will be addressed by the Honourable Devant Maharaj, Minister of Food Production, Trinidad and Tobago. The feature address at the first Scientific Session on Monday 1st July will be given by Professor Clement Sankat, Principal of the UWI St Augustine Campus. Well over 100 scientific presentations will be given in addition to many poster presentations. Field Trips are being organised to Trinidadian agricultural sites of interest. Further details on the conference are available at [http://cfcs.eea.uprm.edu/](http://cfcs.eea.uprm.edu/) and [http://sta.uwi.edu/conferences/13/postharvest/index.asp](http://sta.uwi.edu/conferences/13/postharvest/index.asp).

Weather summaries >>>

### March 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CARDI Stations</th>
<th>Average Temperature (°C)</th>
<th>Average Wind Speed (m/s)</th>
<th>Highest Gust (m/s)</th>
<th>Total Rain (mm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Max.</td>
<td>Min.</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belize</td>
<td>30.9</td>
<td>18.2</td>
<td>24.6</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grenada</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>28.1</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guyana</td>
<td>30.2</td>
<td>25.3</td>
<td>27.8</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>21.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Kitts</td>
<td>27.7</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td>25.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Lucia</td>
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<td>26.5</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinidad</td>
<td>32.3</td>
<td>22.6</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N/A Data not available
Note: CARDI weather station in Jamaica is 600 m above sea level

Upcoming Events >>>

- **7th Meeting of the ASSC/TMAC for Agricultural Disaster Risk Management**
  24 June 2013, Antigua

- **Meeting of the Agriculture Research and Development TMAC**
  28 – 29 June 2013, Trinidad and Tobago

- **Joint Conference of the Caribbean Food Crops Society, Caribbean Agro Economics Society and the International Society for Horticultural Sciences.**
  30 June - 6 July 2013, Hyatt Regency, Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago
  [http://cfcs.eea.uprm.edu/](http://cfcs.eea.uprm.edu/)

- **6th Africa Agriculture Science Week and FARA General Assembly**
  15-20 July, 2013, Accra, Ghana

- **International Course on genomic selection prediction**
  23-27 September, 2013, Mexico City

- **12th Caribbean Week of Agriculture**
  4-12 October, 2013, Guyana
  [http://www.caricom.org/jsp/CWA/CWA_Index.jsp?menu=community](http://www.caricom.org/jsp/CWA/CWA_Index.jsp?menu=community)

- **CTA International Conference - ICT4Ag**
  4-8 November, Kigali Rwanda

The CARDI Bi-weekly is a fortnightly electronic publication, published on the 15th and 30th of each month. The aim is to keep you informed of the latest news, publications, upcoming events on CARDI and our partners. We encourage you to contribute to the CARDI Bi-weekly by sending relevant information that can be included in the upcoming issue to Denise Besai.

[http://www.cardi.org](http://www.cardi.org)

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**4-12 October, 2013, Guyana**

[http://www.caricom.org/jsp/CWA/CWA_Index.jsp?menu=community](http://www.caricom.org/jsp/CWA/CWA_Index.jsp?menu=community)

[http://www.facebook.com/CaribbeanWeekOfAgriculture](http://www.facebook.com/CaribbeanWeekOfAgriculture)