News >>>

Denbigh Show Celebrates 62nd Year

The 62nd Annual Denbigh Agricultural Industrial and Food Show was held from 1-3 August 2014 at Denbigh, Clarendon, Jamaica. The theme was “Grow what we eat, eat what we grow” with the sub theme of “Agriculture……Going for Growth”. CARDI was present with a booth which depicted its activities and achievements to the usual large crowd. Among the activities showcased by CARDI were commodity development using the value chain approach, protected agriculture, small ruminants, livestock, agro energy and rehabilitation of mined out bauxite lands. The booth had samples of cassava and its value added products as well as publications and brochures. The CARDI Livestock team featured selected goats of the Alpine, Nubian and Boer breeds reared by the team. A total of six medals were won by CARDI in the livestock competitions. During the Symposium, held in conjunction with the show, Dr Leslie Simpson, CARDI Representative for Jamaica gave a presentation on the topic “Climate change in Agriculture Production”. Among the many distinguished persons who visited the CARDI booth were Derrick Kellier, Acting Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, his Permanent Secretary Donovan Stanberry, Clive Lloyd, Former West Indies Cricket captain, Senator Norman Grant and Godwin Adams, Agriculture Secretary of the Tobago House of Assembly.

Young CARDI Scientists Being Trained In Mexico.

On April 29 2014, IICA and the Secretariat of Agriculture in Mexico signed an agreement to train 150 technical personnel from the Caribbean in priority areas for agricultural development of the Region. There are six courses taking place in Mexico during the summer of 2014 in the following areas (1) Sheep Production (2) Soil and Water Conservation (3) Protected Agriculture (4) Rural Tourism (5) Plant Pathology Techniques and (6) Family Farming. CARDI was asked to nominate younger scientists for these training courses and the following persons were selected: Ansari Hosein (Trinidad and Tobago), Albert Fearon (Jamaica) – Sheep Production; Bradbury Browne (Antigua and Barbuda), Rohan Smith (Jamaica) – Soil and Water Conservation; Emmanuel George (St Lucia) – Protected Agriculture; Dorian Etienne (Dominica) – Rural Tourism; Sharon Jones (Trinidad and Tobago) – Plant Pathology; Martin Lindo (Belize) – Family Farming. CARDI extends heartfelt thanks to the Government of Mexico and to IICA for this very valuable training opportunity.
Protocols For Movement of Planting Material Being Developed.

The free movement of healthy plant and animal genetic material between countries in CARICOM is necessary if the Region is to achieve food and nutrition security. This is also very important for a Regional Institute, such as CARDI, to enable it to carry out a work programme to determine the optimum practices for food production in the Region. CARDI recently submitted to the Caribbean Plant Health Directors (CPHD) a Protocol for the free movement of cassava planting material. The focus on cassava was because of its relevance to ongoing projects and the fact that cassava is an important priority staple for Regional food security. A number of general and technical recommendations were considered by the CPHD, as well as factors such as packaging, handling, freight and phytosanitary requirements. The CPHD considered the Protocol, endorsed it, and are forwarding recommendations to the CARICOM Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED). Decisions of COTED become Regional Policy. It should be noted that, although the focus is currently on cassava, the Protocol being developed can be used as a template for the movement of planting materials for other commodities using vegetative germplasm. The Regional Chief Veterinary Officers have come to a common understanding on the movement of animal and animal products in the Region, now a similar understanding on planting material is well underway.

Upcoming Events

Meeting of Thematic Clusters of CARICOM Community Institutions
15 September 2014, Guyana

Meeting of the Secretary General and Heads of Community Institutions
15-16 September 2014, Guyana

CARDI/CTA Regional Value Chain Workshop
23 – 24 September 2014, Trinidad and Tobago

UN Climate Summit
23rd September 2014, New York, USA

68th CARDI Board of Directors
25 September, 2014, Trinidad and Tobago

Caribbean Week of Agriculture
6-12 October 2014, Suriname

23rd Annual Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association (CWWA) Conference and Exhibition
6-10 October, 2014, Atlantis Resort, Bahamas
http://www.cwwa.net/new/index.php/conference

2nd International Conference on Nutrition
19-21 November 2014, Rome, Italy

CTA Think Tank: “Innovation for Food and Nutrition Security”
15 – 17 October, 2014, Netherlands

Commodity Futures

Wheat Futures July 2014

Wheat futures showed a slight downward trend. Note that prices become higher for later delivery dates.

13th Caribbean Week of Agriculture

6-12 October 2014, Paramaribo, Suriname
Transforming Caribbean Agriculture through Family Farming

CARDI Bi-weekly

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 issues to Denise Besai.

Website: www.cardi.org
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