



Dasheen productivity is determined by a combination of factors including agro-ecological zones, climate, soil type, rainfall, varietal interactions with the soil and farm management practices

## News >>>

### Sixty dasheen farmers receive technical training in Dominica

The CARDI Dominica Unit partnered with the Ministry of Agriculture, Dominica Export Import Agency (DEXIA) and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) to host a seminar on Dasheen Production at the La Plaine Agriculture Centre. Sixty registered farmers with the DEXIA's Support Programme received technical training on general production, pest management and post-harvest. Part of the seminar was facilitated by CARDI's Roots and Tubers Programme Leader, Dr. Greg Robin who reinforced that factors such as agro-ecological zones, climate, soil type, rainfall, varietal interactions with the soil and farm management practices are critical in achieving high productivity. Dr. Robin cautioned farmers "to not make blanket yields or user yields in projections as root crops specifically have variations in yields based on where they are planted and the time they are planted". Dorian Etienne, CARDI's officer in Charge of the Dominica Unit said that Institute is committed to working to ensure farmers are knowledgeable on what they should do to produce the quantities and qualities of dasheen that the domestic and international markets demand. This seminar was held on 8 April and was supported under the European Union funded Agriculture Policies Programme.

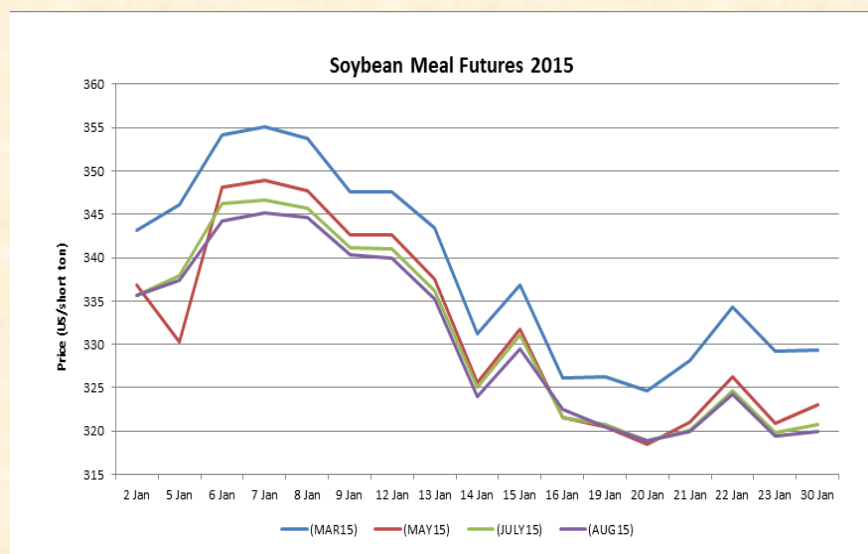
### Three regional agri-scientists on climate change attachment in Fiji

Three agricultural scientists, Ruthvin Harper (St Vincent and the Grenadines), Trevorne Douglas (Dominica) and Aldaine Gordon (Jamaica) are currently participating in a 2 month attachment at the Secretariat of the Pacific Community's (SPC) Land Resources Division located in Suva, Fiji. The attachment is one of the activities funded under Component 2 of the CARIFORUM Action under the 10th European Development Fund Agriculture Policy Program (APP). The objectives of the attachment include: learning about the scope of the activities of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community Land Resources Division in line with agriculture development and facilitating trade and market access; learning the different evaluation methods (tissue culture, screen house and breeding) for evaluating crops for tolerance to different climatic factors and visits to the field and different project partners on areas that link to agriculture development in the Pacific to determine how that knowledge can contribute or adapt to agriculture development in the Caribbean. Root crops are among those, under investigation in the Caribbean under the APP. The SPC has been identified as a Centre of Excellence in the area of Mitigating the Impact of Climate Change in Root Crops, thus its selection to facilitate the training of these scientists.

## The GoLoCarSce Project

The Global-Local Caribbean Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Scenarios (GoLoCarSce) Project is designed to improve the scientific understanding of the effects of Climate Change on the ecological, social, political and economic systems of the small islands of the Caribbean through the development of a set of locally-relevant, socio-economic scenarios for the Caribbean. It is a three year project that is being funded under the EU/ACP Caribbean & Pacific Research Programme for Sustainable Development. On March 4 and 5 CARDI's Environment and Natural Resource Management Specialist Dr. Leslie Simpson participated in the (GoLoCarSce) Project Scenario Development Workshop at the University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus. The workshop was facilitated by renowned scenario expert Dr. Eric Kemp-Benedict, from the Stockholm Environmental Institute (SEI). At the workshop participants were exposed to factors such as "critical uncertainties" and "intuitive logics" and an analysis technique known Cross Impact Balance (CIB). Collectively these techniques and tools will be used to build and refine models under this project. From these models scenarios for the Caribbean will be developed and these may even be extrapolated to development scenarios for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). At the end of the workshop it was suggested that a similar session be conducted at a CARICOM Heads of Government meeting. The intention would be for the Heads to seriously develop shared scenarios for a unified Caribbean which could guide their decisions and actions and those of their successors. This project is currently being executed by the Department of Life Sciences, University of the West Indies (UWI), St Augustine Campus in association with regional partners: UWI Mona; Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES); The Cropper Foundation (TCF); the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC); CARDI; and one international partner, the Stockholm Environment institute (SEI) . More information on this project is available at <http://www.golocarsce.org>.

## Soybean Meal Futures 2015 >>>



After peaking in early January the price for Soybean continued to decline for the remainder of the month.

Source: Extracted from Personal Communication with Caribbean Poultry Association

## Upcoming Events >>>

**Conference: New pathways to strengthen resilience and underpin sustainable development in the Caribbean**  
30 April – 1 May, 2015, UWI Campus, St. Augustine

**CARDI/WUR Conservation of Crop Germplasm Farmers Training**  
29 April 2015, Central Farm, Belize

**Belize Agricultural Fair**  
1-3 May 2015, Belmopan, Belize

**CARICOM/New Zealand Technical Co-operation. High Level Meeting.**  
29 April, 2015, CARICOM Secretariat, Georgetown, Guyana

**51<sup>st</sup> Annual CFCS Meeting**  
19 -25 July 2015, Paramaribo, Suriname  
<http://cfcs.eea.uprm.edu/article/join-us-51st-cfcs-annual-meeting-suriname>

**Greensys 2015 - International Symposium on New Technologies and Management for Greenhouses**  
19-23 July 2015, Évora, Portugal  
<http://www.greensys2015.uevora.pt/>

**World Congress on Root and Tuber Crops**  
5 -10 October, 2015, Nanning, Guangxi, China

## NOTICE >>>

### CARDI/ EU/ ITC funded Caribbean Coconut Sector Development Road Mapping Workshops

Dates	Venues
19-20 May 2015	Trinidad and Tobago & Suriname
22-23 May 2015	Guyana
26-27 May 2015	Belize

## CARDI Bi-Weekly

The CARDI Bi-weekly is a fortnightly electronic publication, published on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.cardi.org)  
**Facebook:** Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute  
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