



For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

Rewarding Excellence in Agriculture Science



Top student Chavan Lyttle, Faculty of Food and Agriculture, UWI, St Augustine

31 October, 2018, Trinidad and Tobago - The Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) is delighted to join with the Faculty of Food and Agriculture to reward excellence in Agriculture Science. At the faculty's annual Prizes and Award Ceremony held on 25th October, 2018, CARDI Executive Director, Barton Clarke presented the T.P Lecky award to Chavan Lyttle who graduated at the top of his class with B.Sc. in Agriculture Science. The T.P Lecky Award, sponsored by CARDI is awarded to the student who has the best performance in all degrees in the School of Agriculture over years I to III.

For his academic performance Chavan was also awarded the:

- The Professor Richard Brathwaite Prize for the best performance in B.Sc. Agriculture, Year III;
- The Frederick Hardy Prize for best Soil Science student;
- The Principal's Prize for the best performance in B.Sc. Agriculture; and the
- The Norman Girwar Award for Excellence for the best final year undergraduate project in the Department of Food Production.

Chavan, a Jamaican national is still looking at his options following graduation. He has applied to several organisations with the hope of getting some valuable work experience. Later, he would like to pursue his post graduate studies, but is still uncertain of the path this would take. When he spoke to CARDI, Chavan urged students wanting to study agriculture to be mentally strong as the stigma associated with the subject can be very demeaning. He encouraged students to see the value of the sector to their family and country. He is advising students to start practicing the three D's DETERMINATION, DISCIPLINE and DILIGENCE if they want to succeed.

In offering his congratulations CARDI's Executive Director, Barton Clarke said that the youth and young farmers are the future of the Region's agriculture and agri-food sectors. As such the Institute's Global OJT Programme which specifically targets youth is structured to provide them with the practical skills and technical knowledge needed to develop into future agriculture architects. Clarke continued by saying they will be prepared to bring their fresh ideas and innovative approaches to the fore which will result in building a competitive sector ready to meet the changing needs of tomorrow.

-ENDS-

Dr. Thomas Phillip (T.P.) Lecky, is a Jamaican Scientist, whose research work focused on cattle. In 1951 Lecky's extensive research resulted in the first breed of indigenous Jamaican cattle, the Jamaican Hope, a symbol of hope for the poor. Later research work resulted in the development of the following breeds: Jamaican Red, Jamaican Brahman and Jamaican Black. As a young boy Lecky's love for livestock and agriculture in particular was instilled by his father a farmer. He is the recipient of several awards including Order of the British Empire. Lecky is widely published and held many prominent positions in Jamaica.

About CARDI

The Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute, CARDI (www.cardi.org) was established in 1974 to serve the agricultural research and development needs of the Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). CARDI is positioned to contribute to the sustainable development of the Caribbean by the co-generation, diffusion and application of knowledge, through agricultural research for development. The Institute has representation in 14 countries in the Region and is headquartered at the University Campus, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago.

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