



Caribbean Agro-Economic Society NEWSLETTER

MARCH, 2005

DINNER TO HONOUR DR LLOYD RANKINE

Members who were present at the General Meeting of the Caribbean Agro-Economic Society (CAES) held in Paramaribo on 19 August 2004 will remember that they endorsed a recommendation that Dr Lloyd Rankine be awarded the Distinguished Contributor Award of the CAES in the Lifetime Achievement Award category.

This award is given to those who have contributed to the continuous development of the society. This contribution includes some or all of these specific contributions:

- a. Organisation of the society
- b. Organisation of the conference
- c. Promotion of the society
- d. Promotion of the aims and objectives of the society
- e. Participation in all aspects such as:
 - i Execution
 - ii Conferences
 - iii Fund raising
 - iv Technical contribution - presentation and discussing of papers, editing of proceedings.

The award will be presented to Dr Rankine during a dinner at Valpark Chinese Restaurant on Thursday March 17, 2005.

Dr Rankine gained his first degree at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in 1963, his masters in 1966 and Ph.D in 1968 (both at the University of Hawaii). After he was awarded his Ph.D, Dr Rankine joined the UWI Institute of Social and Economic Research and then later the Faculty of Agriculture. He has given long and distinguished service in the various faculties and departments which have evolved over the years.

He is a director of the Caribbean Network for Integrated Rural Development (CNIRD), Director of Kairi Consultants Ltd and also Director of Data Resource Systems International, Jamaica. He is also Chairman and member of several committees and boards dealing with traditional agricultural commodities such as banana and sugar.

This newsletter cannot begin to describe Dr Rankine's achievements over the years, but most of its readers will know of at least some of Dr Rankine's work.

Tickets for the dinner to honour Dr Rankine are available from any member of the Executive of the CAES. Ticket prices have been kept to TT\$100 by a subsidy from CAES funds.

NEWS TITBITS

New Editorial Assistant

Dr Carlisle Pemberton has been appointed Editorial Assistant for the Farm and Business journal.

Revised Constitution

The current CAES constitution dates back over 30 years and needs some revision. Two members of the Executive, Ramesh Sarabjit and Carlisle

Pemberton have been charged with the task of review. The Executive is planning to present the proposed revised constitution to the membership at the next General Meeting of the

CAES in 2006.

Website

Darren Dhoray of Blue Chip Technologies has been identified to help develop a website for CAES. Watch this space and the World Wide Web for developments.

Camera

The society has purchased a digital camera which will be used to take photographs of members, meetings, conferences etc.

Some of the photographs will be placed on the website when it becomes operational.

Joint Conference

Negotiations are continuing with the Caribbean Food Crops Society (CFCS) concerning the proposed joint meeting of CFCS and CAES in 2006. The meeting will be held sometime in July 2006 with San Juan the most

likely venue.

Theme for Joint Conference

A theme suitable for the joint meeting is being sought. Any suggestions? No prizes if your theme is chosen, but if the theme chosen is by one person (as opposed to the Executive coming up with a theme based on ideas presented) then that person will be given due acknowledgement.

COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES WHERE ARE YOU?

The following are the Country Representatives of CAES

Antigua and Barbuda	Desmond Kentish
Bahamas	Carl Smith
Barbados	Hesdie Grauwde
Belize	Yvette Alonzo
Canada	Richard Carew
Dominica	Emaline Harris-Charles
Dominican Republic	Jesus de los Santos
Europe	John Ronald Deep Forde
Grenada	Randolph Mark
Guadeloupe	Marie-Francois Zebus
Guyana	C Y Thomas
Haiti	Budry Bayard
Jamaica	Donald Palmer
Montserrat	Claude Gerald
Puerto Rico	Carmen Alamo
St Kitts and Nevis	Jerome Thomas/Frederick Merchant
St Lucia	Lench Fevrier
St Vincent and the Grenadines	Ashley Cain
Suriname	Winston Ramautarsingh
Trinidad and Tobago	Edric Harry
US Virgin Islands	Kwame Garcia
USA	Curtis Jolly (South)/Edmund Tarvenier (New Jersey)

An asterisk after the name indicates that e-mails to that person bounced back or that no email address is known. Does anyone have a current e-mail for any of these?

Over the last few years most of our Country Representatives have not been very active. Now is the time to change that.

As you have read elsewhere in this Newsletter, here in Trinidad and Tobago we are organising a dinner to honour Dr Rankine and the society is subsidising part

of the cost. Why not put on an event in your country and ask the Executive for a similar subsidy?

Besides a dinner other ideas for an event include cocktails (or an informal lime), a talk, an outing, anything to get people together. Even a bingo session or dominoes tournament.

If any of the representatives wishes to know the members in his/her country please contact our secretary, Sarojini Ragbir at sragbir@fans.uwi.tt. When you get this list you will notice many people not included. These are potential members who can be targeted. Organise something to bring them together.

HELP US FIND.....

1. The Country Representatives whom we do not have a current e-mail address (those with an asterisk in the list above)

2. Professor D Edwards of the UK. At the 2005 General Meeting of the CAES he was awarded the "Special Award" for initiating the conference series and for conceiving, planning and forming the CAES in 1974.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The CAES bank balance is quite healthy, but the society has been criticised for not being active between meetings. This can only change if we get a regular income flow, not just a fee from those who turn up at our biennial meetings.

Therefore show your interest in the society by forwarding your 2005 subscription of US\$10 to the Treasurer, Dr Andrew Jacque, c/o CARDI, P.O. Bag 212, UWI Campus, St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago (andrew.jacque@fao.org.tt)

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Know your Executive Members.
Send them an e-mail. Here are the details.

President	Bruce Lauckner biometrics@cardi.org
Vice President	Ramesh Sarabjit rameshsarabjit@yahoo.com
Secretary	Sarojini Ragbir sragbir@fsa.uwi.tt
Treasurer	Andrew Jacque andrew.jacque@fao.org.tt
Director of Publications	Carlisle Pemberton cpemberton@fsa.uwi.tt
Elected Members	
Wendel Parham	executive@cardi.org
Govind Seepersad	gseepe rsad@fsa.uwi.tt

CALL FOR RESOURCE PERSONS

The CAES Executive is exploring the possibility of its members carrying out training to economists, planners and others in bodies such as Ministries of Agriculture, National Research Institutions etc.

Two questionnaires have been prepared. One has been sent to potential resource persons asking whether they would be

interested in doing any training and if so in what areas. The other questionnaire is to institutions to whom the training would be addressed asking whether they would be interested in receiving any training.

Many readers of this newsletter may have or will soon receive one of the questionnaires. If you have not got one or both and are interested please request one from Sarojini Ragbir. We want to hear from everybody who is interested.