



PRESS KIT - 52ND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CARIBBEAN FOOD CROPS



CAP ON THE BIO-ECONOMY IN AGROECOLOGY AND CARIBBEAN :
FOR INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD POLICY, ENVIRONMENTALLY

July 10-16, 2016
KARIBEA BEACH RESORT
Pointe de la Verdure, Gosier 97190,
GUADELOUPE FWI



Agriculture is a key economic sector in the countries of the Caribbean basin. However, the diversification of economic sectors in the area (tourism, professional services), lower operating plots, increasing or growing competition in the international market, the lack of job opportunities at local and regional scale, undermining agriculture Caribbean.

The Antilles-Guyane are also affected by these issues. **The number of farm managers and co-operators in all the overseas departments has decreased sharply** between 1989 (51 166) and 2010 (25 203). (Source Agreste Agricultural Census).

Recently the Caribbean territories are facing a new concern: **ensuring food security challenged by climate change**. Hence the need to **promote sustainable agriculture Caribbean**. *It is in this spirit that integrates the 52nd International Congress of the Caribbean Food Crops Society (CFCS)*. An international event that Guadeloupe is hosting this year from July 10 to July 16 2016. The region will, on this occasion, be a center of reflection and a laboratory of ideas, in the heart of the Caribbean region.

Nombre de chefs d'exploitation et coexploitants, actifs sur l'exploitation, par âge à la date du recensement
DOM
Ensemble des exploitations

DÉPARTEMENT	Total chefs et coexploitants			Chefs et coexploitants moins de 40 ans			Chefs et coexploitants de 40 ans à 59 ans			Chefs et coexploitants 60 ans et plus		
	1989	2000	2010 ^P	1989	2000	2010 ^P	1989	2000	2010 ^P	1989	2000	2010 ^P
9A - GUADELOUPE	16 362	12 159	7 937	3 528	2 818	1 221	7 670	5 852	4 926	5 164	3 489	1 790
9B - MARTINIQUE	15 600	8 188	3 400	2 414	1 527	363	6 563	3 474	2 186	6 623	3 187	851
9C - GUYANE	4 505	5 332	5 994	1 976	2 473	2 197	1 905	2 107	2 897	624	752	900
9D - RÉUNION	14 699	9 387	7 872	5 361	3 583	1 758	7 707	4 987	5 163	1 631	817	951
ENSEMBLE DOM	51 166	35 066	25 203	13 279	10 401	5 539	23 845	16 420	15 172	14 042	8 245	4 492

P : donnée provisoire

Sources : Agreste Recensement agricole 1970, Agreste Recensement agricole 1979, Agreste Recensement agricole 1988, Agreste Recensement agricole 2000, Agreste Recensement agricole 2010



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Edito

2016, the 52nd congress of the CFCS will be held in Guadeloupe from July 10 to 16 and is expected to bring together congress attendees from the Caribbean Region, Central and South America and the United States. Attendees will also come from Europe, Africa and Asia. The 52nd Congress receives the support of the French National Institute for Agricultural Research, which oversees the translation of the event's main orientation sessions focused on the Caribbean Basin.

The expansive theme chosen for the 52nd congress is **“Engineering ecological modernization of agriculture and exploring the potential of tropical biological resources for innovation, while moving toward bio-economic development of the Caribbean region.”** The objective is to share regional experiences and work out a collective strategy of modernization of agriculture and food sectors, while putting the challenges of agro-ecology and the bio-economy at the heart of the debates. A great store is placed on balancing the scientific and technical dimension with innovation and public policies.

The scientific and technical sessions will contribute to reviewing advanced technologies in different fields. Forums will be organized for stakeholders and policy makers to discuss topics of particular concern such as technology transfer and innovation, and bio-economy. Field trips will be organized to complete the program to allow congress members to appreciate the realities and possibilities of Guadeloupe.

At the international level, this 52nd congress of the CFCS seeks to open strategic avenues for the development of agriculture and food production in the Caribbean, while at the same time projecting itself into the currents of agro-ecology and bio-economy. By promoting the concept of implied research, we wish, through the wealth of exchanges the congress will stimulate, that it prints this new dash via the networks and the projects we will foster in our workshops.

Harry OZIER-LAFONTAINE,
*CFCS's Vice-President,
Research Director, INRA's Center President –
Regional Delegation Guadeloupe Guyane Martinique*

Caribbean Food Crops Society's 52nd International Congress

Since 1963, the Caribbean Food Crops Society (CFCS), created on the initiative of Caribbean agronomists actively pursuing innovation and development of agriculture, food and environmental development of the Caribbean Basin countries.

Its strategy is based on intensifying the information sharing and practices between the various players in these sectors. As a Non-profit organization based in Puerto Rico, it is not affiliated with any public or private institution. Its goal is to promote communication and exchange between people that can contribute to the development of science, technology and to the production of food crops and animals in the Caribbean.

Also, for half a century every year, the CFCS gathers 150 to 350 participants in different countries of the insular and continental Caribbean.



An event chaired by INRA Antilles-Guyane

The inter-regional center Antilles-Guyane is the only of the 17 INRA centers located in the tropics. Its headquarters is in Guadeloupe. Its activities mainly concern the three French regions of America (Guadeloupe, French Guiana and Martinique). In Guadeloupe and Martinique, INRA is working on a clean, integrated agriculture, that is to say an agriculture based on agro-ecological principles to overcome the pollution inputs. The research, bear in Guyana, on the ecology of tropical forests.



1987: The T.H.E.R.E.S.A sensor for control of irrigation is patented



1995: National Commission for Genetic Improvement (CNAG) recognizes the Creole cattle breed



1999: Development of a SugarCane Juice stabilized and patented by INRA. This patent will lead to the creation of the brand Kanasao

The Steering Committee

A local organising committee was established to collectively prepare the event. It involves personalities *in* research, *and in* local authorities - Region Guadeloupe and County Council -, the Chamber of Agriculture, the Network of Innovation and Transfer Agricole (RITA), the Synergîle competitiveness cluster, backed Capénergies to the Franco-Caribbean Cooperation Institute (ICFC), the Department of the Environment, land and Housing (DEAL), University of the West Indies, the Cabinet CecilConsultant, the Mayor of Gourbeyre and CANGT.



Between 250 and 300 delegates from all around the world

CFCS's 52nd Congress host between 250 and 300 delegates from the Great English-speaking Caribbean, French, Spanish and Dutch, Central America, South America, and the United States, but also coming from Europe, Africa and Asia.

An opportunity for INRA to be visited by Mr. François HOULLIER, CEO of INRA, who will present the 70-year history of the National Institute for Agricultural Research.

A great international initiative to set course on **"Agroecology and the Bioeconomy in the Caribbean."**





Cap on «Agroecology and the Bioeconomy in the Caribbean»

The aim of this conference is to address three major challenges for the Caribbean :

- **Ensure food self:** how to feed a growing population and ensure food security while protecting the ecosystems and natural resources?
- **Developing agro-processing and bio-economy:** how to help developing new markets, new methods of processing agricultural products, more respectful of local ecosystems and the environment?
- **Initiate a transition towards smart agriculture:** how to enhance the sustainability of agricultural systems in small island economies ?

Thus, sharing regional experiences and the collective development of agricultural modernization strategy and food will be at the heart of the debate. The focus will be on finding the balance between the scientific and technical dimension, as well as innovation, and public policy. There is indeed a shared commitment to agricultural development placing the issues of agroecology and the bioeconomy reflections center. The idea that the voice of our island territories will be heard at the international level if we are partners in a common approach.

Agroecology: This is a concept in which production systems are based on the functionality provided by ecosystems. It amplifies and optimizes while reducing pressure on the environment and preserving natural resources.

The nature, time is used as a factor of production and maintains its renewal capacity.

It involves using a set of techniques that consider farming as a whole.

(Source: Alim'agri).

Bio-economy: It highlights the biological or natural basis of all economic and human problems thus processes associated with the depletion of our natural resources. It is a set of economic activities related to innovation, development, production and use of biological products and processes.

It is also defined as an association whose goal is to educate and inform about the issues and the need for agriculture and a truly sustainable forestry, productive and effective to ensure the diversity and competitiveness of their downstream sectors of transformation meet growing global needs.

(Source: notre-planete.info)



From Agroecology to bioeconomy

Scientific and technical sessions will help to take stock of research and technological advances in the areas concerned:

Agroecological production system, visions and practices of actors

Agro-ecological production systems (ie. Adaptive cropping and livestock systems, high biodiversity) provide new opportunities to improve economic and environmental performance of agriculture in the caribbean.

Session scope by Michel NAVES, Research Engineer at the Zootechnical Research Unit of INRA in Guadeloupe. He leads a program research focused on the adaptation of cattle in tropical environments, for the development and implementation of breeding programs. He particularly studies the impact of diet grazing, climate and ticks and the diseases they transmit on the performance of cattle. His work also aim to develop the skills of local genetic resources for sustainable farming systems.

Towards a Bioeconomy Caribbean : Innovative technologies for the processing of agricultural products and green chemistry

The natural biodiversity in the Caribbean countries and the product diversity of their agriculture are very important to meet their population needs. This session will deliver an overview of technological advances and Caribbean specificities in the processing of agricultural products, to help improve the local socio-economic development, and the provision of healthy food or non-food products.

Session scope Louis FAHRASAMANE, HDR Research Engineer (PhD), Doctor in food science, agro-processing expert at INRA. It looks in particular at the processing plant resources. He is currently working on the enrichment process in feed proteins.

Agroecological operating systems to support adaptation and sustainability of farms face of global change in the Caribbean.

Caribbean countries are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of global change on the environment and agriculture. This session will address these impacts and solutions that can help strengthen the sustainability of production systems and natural environments in small island territories, in terms of mitigation and adaptation in agriculture. Technical, socio-economic and territorial issues will be addressed in an interdisciplinary and comprehensive approach.

Session scope by Valerie ANGEON, PhD in applied economics and lecturer attached to the French West Indies and Guiana University. His work of regional economy bear on collective action issues and local coordination to analyze the terms of sustainable development of rural and island territories.





Involve agricultural professionals and policy makers

In addition, two forums will be organized. The first one will be to the attention of agricultural professionals with the theme: agricultural innovation systems in the Caribbean: towards climate-smart systems.

The Farmer's Forum is for agricultural professionals (farmers, herders, agro processors, consultants, technicians, researchers, engineers) and policy makers.

Its objective is to organize a collective reflection on network design innovation in devices, to support ecological modernization of Caribbean agriculture. It is designed, first, to a collective appropriation of concepts and innovation and transfer devices under the agro-ecological and energy transition, secondly, to facilitate a sharing of experiences on structural devices existing.

This cross-fertilization will be used to co-build a framework for the promotion of a climate-smart agriculture and eco-efficient territories in the Caribbean region.

The focus will be on open innovation systems «Living-labs» with the principal available to develop a first specification of a living-labs Caribbean device networks (LLCR).

This reflection is seen as one of the structural foundations for the construction of a regional project Inter - OCABA «Caribbean Observatory of Agricultural Biodiversity and practices» which will LLCR the strategic link.

Climate-smart agriculture: It combines food security, agricultural development and climate change. It aims to (1) sustainable increases in agricultural productivity and farmers' incomes to meet food security needs, adapting agricultural systems to climate change by creating resilient systems, and (3) mitigate climate change by reducing emissions greenhouse gas in the agricultural world and increase carbon sequestration.

Note that smart climate-interventions according to their place of implementation.
(Source: Agnes Ricroch)

Another forum will be organized to the attention of policy makers to begin with them a reflection on the challenges of the bioeconomy: How bioeconomy may be a socio-economic and environmental development vector in the Caribbean: the foundations for a roadmap.

This workshop will review the various public policies and the Caribbean integration strategy of different countries facing the challenges of the bioeconomy and how to reason its implementation in the Caribbean situations diversity.

In addition to those workshops, three field visits will be organized to present the work of local agro-ecology matters, agro-tourism and aquaculture:

Tour 1:

- Theme: Agroecology, Nature, Green Industry
- Place : Basse-Terre & Côte Sous-le-Vent
- Partners: Farmers, Grivelière, Vanibel, Phytobokaz and Bologna

Tour 2:

- Theme: Agro-tourism, agro-ecology, green belt
- Place: Nord Grande-Terre
- Partners: City of Morne-à-Water, Country Cane, INRA (EU Bucket)

Tour 3:

- Theme: Aquaculture, water tourism
- Place : Côte Sous-le-Vent
- Partners: aquaculture park of Pointe-Noire, marine output (Malendure in Bouillante and Deshaies)



PROGRAM

- Monday, July 11, 2016 at 8:30 am - **Opening Ceremony in the presence of scientific and political partners:**
 - o Welcome and introduction. OZIER LAFONTAINE Harry, INRA Antilles Guyane
 - o President of INRA, Mr François HOULLIER
 - o President of the Region Guadeloupe
 - o Chair of the Department Guadeloupe
 - o Region Guadeloupe Prefect
 - o President of the Chamber of Agriculture Guadeloupe
 - o Chairman of the Board of CFCS, Mr Wilfredo Colon

- Monday, July 11, 2016 from 11.00 to 12.30 - **Keynotes:**
 - o **Tracking on-farm innovation** - Jean Marc Meynard, INRA, Paris
 - o **Operations and platform technology transfer in the area:** key tools to stimulate local development - K. Rochefort (PARM, Martinique), Joseph H. (Phytobokaz), N. & L Minatchy Fährasmene (INRA, Guadeloupe)
 - o **Resilience, Transformation and Sustainability** - Katrina Brown Univ. Exeter, UK

- - From Monday 11 to Tuesday, July 12 - **Scientific and Technical Sessions:** *agro-ecological production systems: progress and perceptual development in the Caribbean*

- - Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 8:30 am - **farmers forum and local its market:** *Organize a collective reflection on network design innovation in devices.*

- - Friday, July 15, 2016 at 9:00 am – **Policymakers forum:** *How can the bioeconomy be a socio-economic and environmental development vector in the Caribbean?*

- - Friday, July 15, 2016 20:00 - **Gala dinner with awards:** *Innovation and Bio-Economy.* On this occasion, the Congress will honor the work of Lucien DEGRAS and Phytobokaz Laboratory.

CONTACTS

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