

National Fruit Tree Program
(Achievements and Workplan 2022-23)

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National Fruit Tree Coordinator
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Administrative Resources

- 6 Extension Officers responsible for fruit trees
- 1 Agronomist
- 1 Coconut Technician
- 3 Field Staff
- 1 National Coordinator

Administrative....

- National Coconut Stakeholders Platform
- Coconut Technical Team
- Producer Groups
- 6 Lead Farmers

Financial Resources

Funding for Trainings, Germplasm, Production, Agro-Processing, Resiliency and Research from:

1. ITC
2. IICA
3. CARDI
4. INIFAP
5. Financial Institutions

Assets

- 10 acres coconut germplasm established at Central Farm
- Panama Tall, Malayan Dwarf(yellow + Bronze), Michoacan Tall, Chactemal, Colima and MayPan)
- 6 lead farmers located countrywide
- Ongoing projects for training in production and Processing

Assets

- MOU with INIFAP for Training, Research in Coconut, Pitahaya, Citrus and Soursop
- Regional Collaboration, Capacity Building and Development of Germplasm Management for Non Traditional Fruit Trees Project

Assets

- Regional Project for the Development of the Coconut Industry
- Goal is to Enhance Competitiveness and Building Resilience to Climate Change

Yellow Malayan Seedling Nursery



Coconut Seed Garden #1 Used For Hybridization



Maypan Seedlings



Panama Tall Seedlings



Partners in Development For the Coconut Roadmap

CARDI, ITC, BAHA, OIRSA, Foreign Trade INIFAP,
Cooperative Department, Farmers DFC, IICA, BMDC,
Bureau of Standards, PCB,

Strategic Objectives of the Coconut Roadmap

5 main goals:

1. Promote sustainable climate smart crop production practices and technologies and extension services (IPM, GAP, GMP...)
2. Increase access to finance to increase competitiveness along the value chain, farms, enterprises, and the industry.

Strategic Objectives of the Roadmap

3. Improve market information system, develop feasibility studies and an industry plan.
4. Improve agro-processing techniques, information on market standard requirements and strengthen the commercialization of value-added products.

Strategic Objectives of the Roadmap

5. Establish a productive public-private partnership to promote links in the value chain, improve producer's livelihood and well-being.

Survey (Cocos nucifera)

- + 1,200 coconut farmers identified
- +16,000 acres established
- 80% +/- classified as small farmers (< 5 acres)

Survey (Cocos nucifera)

- 3 major processors (Big H, Texbel, Henry Cantun)
- Coconut water and Oil are the 2 major commodities in the value chain
- 2 containers of oil exported to Jamaica

Pineapples (Ananas comosus)

- 2 Stakeholders meeting was carried out. Significant interest for the cultivation especially in the Northern Districts.
- Both CPBL and Texbel want to purchase from farmers of the MD2 Variety

Survey (Pineapple)

- +243 Pineapple farmers with +/- 400 acres established
- Major varieties are Sugarloaf and MD2
- Record number of 1.55 million pounds of fruit delivered to CPBL in 2021
- 2.2 million pounds projected for 2022

Survey (Soursop)

- +400 Soursop farmers with +/- 1,000 acres established
- Varieties include: Costa Rican, Mexican, Caribbean, Salvadoran and Local
- 1 container of concentrate exported in 2021.
- More than 2 containers projected for 2022

Passion Fruit (*Passiflora edulis*)

- 3 registered growers (Arenal Road, Agua Viva and Selena)
- Texbel willing to buy

Pitahaya (*Selenicereus costaricensis*)

- 2 Stakeholders meeting was carried out. Significant interest for the cultivation especially in the Northern Districts.
- 1 nursery building erected at Central Farm
- 5 varieties procured
- + 100 interested farmers with at least 15 acres established countrywide

Pitahaya Nursery At Central Farm



Workplan Outline 2022- 23

- Concentrate on :

1. Coconut
2. Pitahaya
3. Pineapple

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Coconut

- Coordinate Implementation of the Roadmap together with CARDI, ITC and Farmers
- Formalize and foster synergies among stakeholders via the Coconut Stakeholders Platform with support from Cooperative Department

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Coconut

- Review and update crop data (acreages, varieties, production, processing etc).with support from DAC and Research
- Establish/ Upgrade 4 germplasm banks at CF, OW, SC and Toledo with support from BAHA, IICA, CARDI, Research
- Coordinate the importation of 6,000 Maypan seedlings from Jamaica and/or other sources with support from BAHA, CARDI and IICA

Coconut...

- Coordinate trainings for stakeholders along the value chain (via ITC/CARDI, INIFAP, DFC and Cooperative Department)
- Coordinate Strengthening/ Expansion Coconut Hybridization Program to meet demand for good quality seedlings at Central Farm
- Coordinate establishment of 3 germplasm nurseries in(OW, SC and TOL) with support from DAC, IICA, CARDI, BAHA, Private sector and Research from Central Farm

Coconut...

- Characterize selected varieties together with Research staff at Central Farm
- Update cost of production
- Liaise with producers and processors to conduct needs assessments

Pitahaya

- Coordinate the Strengthening of National Task Force with support from Cooperative Department and DAC
- Coordinate the identification of market demand (local, regional) with assistance from BMDC, BAHA and BELTRAIDE
- Coordinate the identification of seed source jointly with BAHA and IICA
- Establish germplasm in OW with support from DAC, IICA and BAHA

Pineapple

- Coordinate the production of fruit to meet the market demand with support from DAC
- Coordinate the reactivation of the rapid seed multiplication bins in Stann Creek with DAC support to meet the demand for seeds
- Liaise with Cooperative Department for Organizational Strengthening OF PRODUCER GROUPS

Pitahaya

- Update database together with Extension staff
- Coordinate trainings for stakeholders along the value chain together with IICA and Cooperative Department

Thank You !!!

Any Questions??