

Agric Info

The Quarterly Agriculture Newsletter of St. Vincent and the Grenadines



FEATURED ARTICLES:



SINGLE LARGEST CARGO OF FISH PRODUCTS AIRLIFTED
Pg 4

AGRI SCIENCE ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME 2018
Pg 23

MONTREAL GREENHOUSE FACILITY LAUNCHED
Pg 16

OECS AGRICULTURE COMPETITIVENESS PROJECT SUCCESSFULLY HOST AGRICULTURE BUSINESS ROUND TABLE
Pg 21

TABLE OF CONTENTS



SINGLE LARGEST CARGO OF FISH PRODUCTS AIRLIFTED

Pg 4



CREATING AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR AGRI-INSURANCE IN ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Pg 6



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE IMPLEMENTS JAPAN-CARIB BEAN CLIMATE CHANGE PARTNERSHIP (JCCP) PROJECTS

Pg 7



PIG PRODUCERS EXPOSED TO HAM-MAKING PROCESS

Pg 9



POULTRY HATCHERY: 14 YEARS ON.....

Pg 10



MONTREAL GREENHOUSE FACILITY LAUNCHED

Pg 16



BLACK SIGATOKA MANAGEMENT IN BANANAS GIVEN SIGNIFICANT BOOST

Pg 19



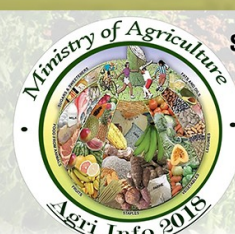
OECS AGRICULTURE COMPETITIVENESS PROJECT SUCCESSFULLY HOST AGRICULTURE BUSINESS ROUND TABLE

Pg 21



AGRI SCIENCE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME 2018

Pg 23



SVG FOOD-BASED DIETARY GUIDELINES TO BE REVISED

Pg 42



ARROWROOT INDUSTRY GIVEN SIGNIFICANT BOOST

Pg 45

FOR MORE INFORMATION FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AT 456-1111 EXT. 312/472 AT CITUMAF2@HOTMAIL.COM



FISHERMAN'S DAY MONTH OF ACTIVITIES 2018

"Cleaner Reefs, Healthy Fish to Eat"



APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Visit to Retired Fishers	Education Day -Barrouallie					
29	30					

MAY

			Session in "Hands on Fishing"		Fish Nite -Barrouallie	
		1	2	3	4	5
			Rowboat Competition			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Church Service Beach Seine Competition	Consumer Day Beach Seine Competition	Fisherfolk Health Day Beach Seine Competition "Hats off to Fishing" Competition	Lecture at NIS (Importance of Social Security and Safety) Beach Seine Competition	Open Day Beach Seine Competition	Fish Nite - Rose Place Beach Seine Competition	Children Sports Day - Rose Place Female & Junior Fishing Competition
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	FISHERMAN'S DAY					
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

BARROUALLIE FISHING COOPERATIVE

29th April - Visit to two retired Fishers and deliver food packages

30th April - Education day in Barrouallie at Primary School and Technical Institute

2nd May - Session in "hands on fishing" at Barrouallie Wharf for youngsters in the community

4th May - Barrouallie Fish Nite

GOODWILL WEEK OF ACTIVITIES

13th May - Church Service

14th May - Consumer Day (To donate fish to an institution in St. Vincent and the Grenadines)

15th May - Fisherfolk Health Day

16th May - "Importance of Social Security and Safety" Lecture at National Insurance Services

17th May - Open Day

18th May - Fish Nite at Rose Place

19th May - Children Sports Day at Rose Place

FISHERMAN'S DAY MONTH OF ACTIVITIES

9th May - Rowboat Competition

13th - 18th May - Beach Seine Competition

15th May - "Hats off to Fishing" Competition

19th May - Female & Junior Fishing Competition

21st May - Fisherman's Day



SINGLE LARGEST CARGO OF FISH PRODUCTS AIRLIFTED

The Fisheries Sector in the state has realized the single largest cargo airlifted from St. Vincent and the Grenadines. This was realized when the Bequia Seafood Company exported 36,000 via the Argyle International Airport.

This achievement was met within the context of key strategies outlined in the National Economic and Social Development Plan (NESDP) 2013-2025 and the Draft Agri-Export Strategy Initiative for the agricultural and fisheries sector.

Three of these strategic interventions in the NESDP are to stimulate private sector investment in the agricultural sector and encourage public-private partnerships, increase market access for diversified agricultural produce and commercialize the agricultural and fisheries sectors. Among several actions, the Draft Agri-Export Strategy Action Plan called for the leased of government-owned properties for the purpose of operating export facilities under PPP arrangements. Hence, in phase 1 of this plan, Government earlier this year leased several of the Fisheries Centres. These included the Bequia, Owia, Calliaqua, Barrouallie and Canouan Fisheries Centres.

Witnessing the shipment was Minister with responsibility for Fisheries, Hon. Saboto Caesar. In his remarks he noted that it was the quest of the Government to harness the resources within the blue economy and that over the last couple of years, the Government has been working with the private sector to lease and operate the fisheries centres. The Minister indicated that the refrigerated trucks donated



Hon. Saboto Caesar, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and **Annette Marks**— Executive Director of Invest SVG at AIA during seafood export operation.



Winston Wright—Ground Handling Manager, AIA Speaking to the media about the seafood shipping operation.



36,000 lbs of Seafood at AIA about to be shipped to the United States

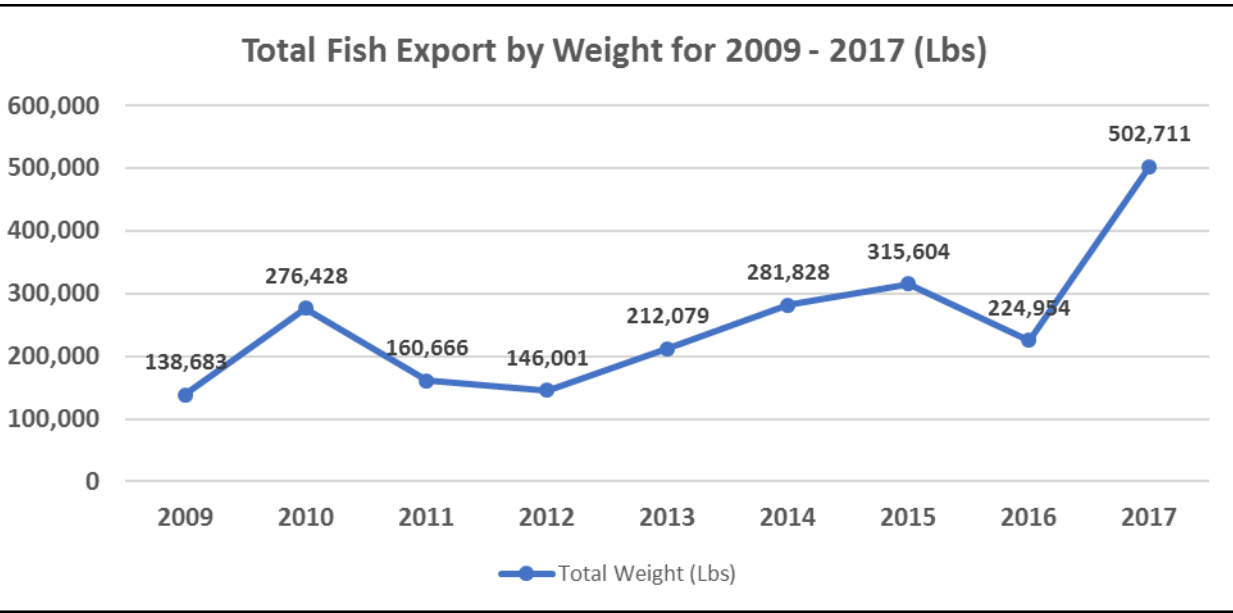
by the Government of Japan are used for the transportation of the 31,000lbs of yellow fin tuna and 5000 lbs of conch from Bequia to the Argyle International Airport.

Minister Caesar encouraged fishers to take advantage of opportunities that are presenting themselves by investing in larger boats, for example, longliners and modern fishing technology to access international markets.

The Owia Fisheries Centre marketing under the name Vincy Pride and the Bequia Seafood Company have joint venture marketing arrangements with international companies and corporations and have thus far exported for the first 9 months of 2018 309,060 lbs valued at EC\$3,600,006. Exports consists mainly of conch, yellow fin tuna and spiny lobster primarily to the USA, Dominica and Barbados. The move to lease these centres to the private sector has impacted significantly on the output of the fisheries centres on a whole when the 2018 figures up to September are compared with total output of 502,711lbs valued at EC\$3,992,260 from all centres in 2017 as indicated in the table and graph.



	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total Weight (Lbs)	138,683	276,428	160,666	146,001	212,079	281,828	315,604	224,954	502,711
Total Value (EC\$)	\$1,016,182.00	\$1,935,513	\$1,412,403	\$1,188,796	\$1,520,837	\$2,361,668	\$2,527,050	\$1,756,313	\$3,992,260



Both companies employ in excess of one hundred (100) persons in the processing and packaging of the products.

The output from the lease arrangement is expected to increase the fisheries sector's contribution to Gross Domestic Product in the short to medium term.



CREATING AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR AGRI-INSURANCE IN ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

The Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Transformation, Forestry, Fisheries, Industry and Labour in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) hosted a mission team under a Technical Cooperation Project looking at creating an enabling environment for Agri-Insurance

provision in three Caribbean countries including St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The mission, which was held from the 17th May – 22nd May 2018 focused on the following:

1. Identification, assessment and facilitation of public-private arrangements that enable the implementation of agricultural insurance mechanisms.
2. Strengthening of the technical capacities of public institutions to support the design and implementation of appropriate and accessible risk transfer products.
3. Strengthening of farmer understanding of agricultural insurance products, to ensure sufficient demand and uptake.

A farmers meeting was hosted by the Ministry to discuss a mechanism to facilitate the provision of agri-insurance in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.



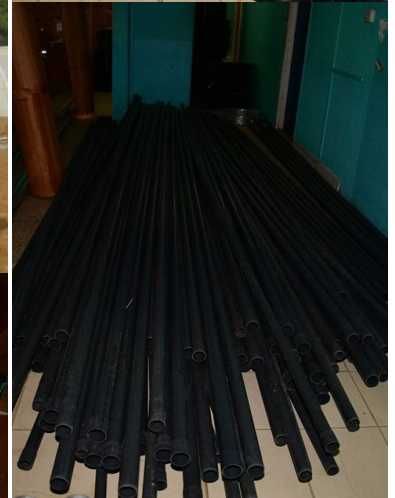


MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE IMPLEMENTS JAPAN-CARIB BEAN CLIMATE CHANGE PARTNERSHIP (JCCCP) PROJECTS

The Ministry is currently implementing project activities related to two projects.

1. Irrigation Capacity Improvement to Improve Climate Resilience among Small Farmers - JCCCP Grant Funding - US\$191,064.57. The project objective is to enhance farmers' capacity to meet economic needs through installation of irrigation capacities on and off farm to improve their climate resilience through the adoption of climate smart strategies.

2. Climate Change Adaptation Project for Livestock Production. JCCCP Grant Funding - US\$55,555.56. This project seeks to establish mechanisms to tackle declining incomes and livelihoods of farm families due to increased intensity and frequency of the dry period, inadequate irrigation infrastructure and continued use of fossil fuel fertilizers on small farms. The project aims to mitigate these issues by constructing small water harvesting systems on small livestock holdings to harvest rain water to be stored for later use. Another aim of the project is the procurement of pelletizers to conserve better quality forage for periods of droughts or floods. The provision of resilient tropical breeds of small ruminants that can withstand the variation in temperature and the increase burden of endoparasites. Two bio digesters have been installed on pig farmers' holdings to convert waste into usable energy for heating and electricity.



DUTY FREE CONCESSION ON MOTOR VEHICLE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY
THE GOVERNMENT OF ST VINCENT AND GRENADINES

FARMERS INCENTIVE PROGRAMME



Farmers receiving concession under this program, will be exempted from payment of **50%** import duty and consumption tax on pick-ups and small trucks **1.5 tonnes** or **LESS**.

REQUIREMENT: The farmer must have conducted commercial farming on at **LEAST Three (3) acres** of land for **three (3) consecutive years** prior to granting of concession.



Vehicles imported under this programme **MUST** carry a special registration number

If the vehicle is sold within **five (5) years**. The farmer must pay a duty in accordance with the following schedule, except in the case where the vehicle is sold to another farmer who is granted concession under this program

TIME FROM DATE OF PURCHASE/IMPORTATION	PERCENTAGE (%) OF DUTY PAYABLE
LESS THAN 12 MONTHS	100%
13-24 MONTHS	80%
25-36 MONTHS	60%
37-48 MONTHS	40%
49-60 MONTHS	20%
OVER 60 MONTHS	NIL

All required information submitted on the application form must be **verified** by your **District Extension Officer** and **certified** by the **Chief Agricultural Officer**

All applications are then submitted with supporting documents to the **Director General, Ministry of Finance**

* Any farmer who is dissatisfied with the decision of the **Director General** may appeal his decision within **Twenty-One (21) days** to the **Cabinet**

**APPLICATION FORMS
AVAILABLE AT:
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**



PIG PRODUCERS EXPOSED TO HAM-MAKING PROCESS

Several Pig Producers from Agricultural Region Three were exposed to the Ham-Making Process at the News Grounds Agricultural Station. The objectives of the training session were to:

- Build capacity in the sector among stakeholders (youth, farmers and Government staff)
- Strengthen producers organisations to add value to their produce.
- Foster group cooperation and camaraderie.

The training session was facilitated by Dr. Colleen Phillips, Veterinary Officer, Animal Health and Production Division (AHPD) and had participation from 9 farmers, 3 members of staff of the Animal Health Production Division and 2 members from the SVG Community College.

The next steps in the process were to evaluate the product which includes the cooked ham after 15 days and the dry cured ham after 9 months.



^ Dr. Colleen Phillips with participants during training activities in Ham making.



POULTRY HATCHERY: 14 YEARS ON.....

Primary poultry products (meat and eggs) are the major source of protein in the Vincentian diet. Hence poultry imports primarily meat represent a significant trunk of our food import bill. A review of data on chicken and poultry imports indicates that on average 6,354,211 kgs of whole chicken, neck, back and wings on other chicken parts valued at an average of EC\$25,782,156.20 were imported between 2010 and 2014. In terms of processed chicken products, an average 502,466.6 kgs valued at EC\$3,324,875.6 were imported over the same period.

Cognizant of this fact, the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines in collaboration with the Taiwanese Technical Mission constructed and opened the Dumbar-ton Poultry Hatchery and Breeder Unit in 2004. The hatchery which is operated by the Animal Health and Production Division of the Ministry of Agriculture is still operational after 14 years. Amid challenges, it has contributed significantly to the provision of day-old broiler and layer chicks to poultry farmers across the state.

Data from the Agricultural Planning Unit indicates that over the period 2013-2017 352,002 day-old chicks comprising of 244,162 broilers and 107,740 layers valued at EC\$857,677.00 were hatched and distributed. These figures only partially reflect the achievement of the hatchery given that it was established in 2004.



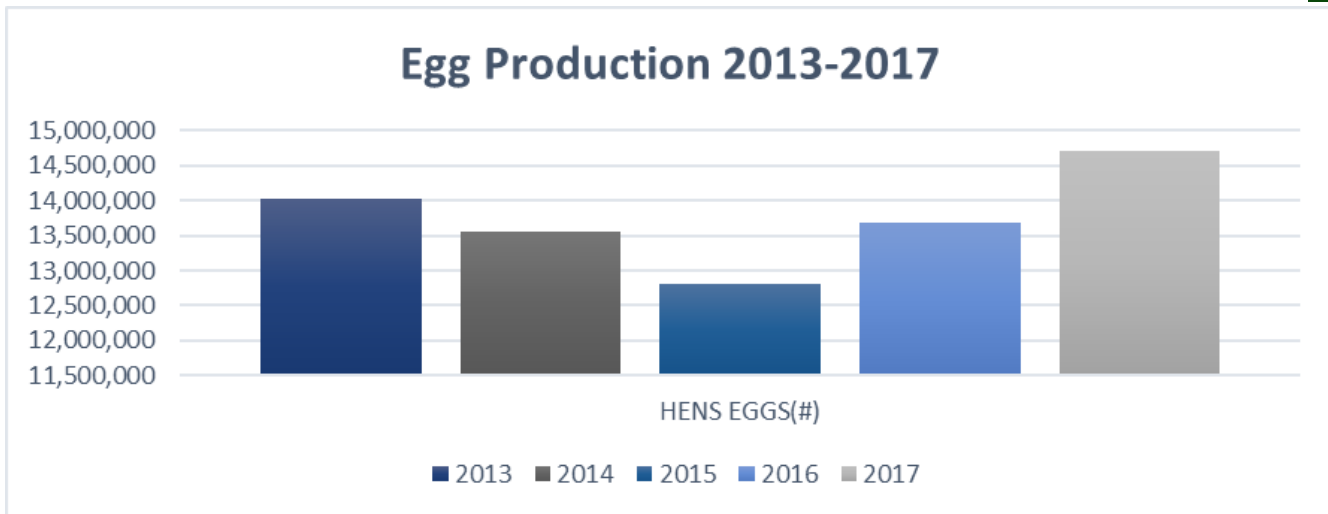
Care for young birds at the Hatchery in Dumbar-ton

Number of chicks produced at hatchery by type and value

Period	NUMBERS#		Total # of Birds	VALUE(EC\$)		Total Value Birds
	Layers	Broilers		Layers	Broilers	
2013	32,385	65,965	98,450	136,863.50	112,449.00	249,312.50
2014	26,654	72,855	99,509	113,279.50	127,496.25	240,775.75
2015	18,616	40,708	59,324	79,118.00	71,239.00	150,357.00
2016	12,686	31,126	43,812	53,915.50	54,470.50	108,386.00
2017	17,399	33,508	50,907	73,945.75	58,639.00	108,845.75

The hatchery has impacted significantly on the supply of table eggs. St. Vincent and the Grenadines can be considered self-sufficient in table eggs. Over the period 2011-2017 egg production data indicate annual production of table eggs averaged 13,830,000 with production peaking at 14,700,000 in 2017.

Once all equipment is functioning and the supply of hatching eggs (layer) are on schedule, there is minimal or no imports during the Christmas season, the period of peak demand.



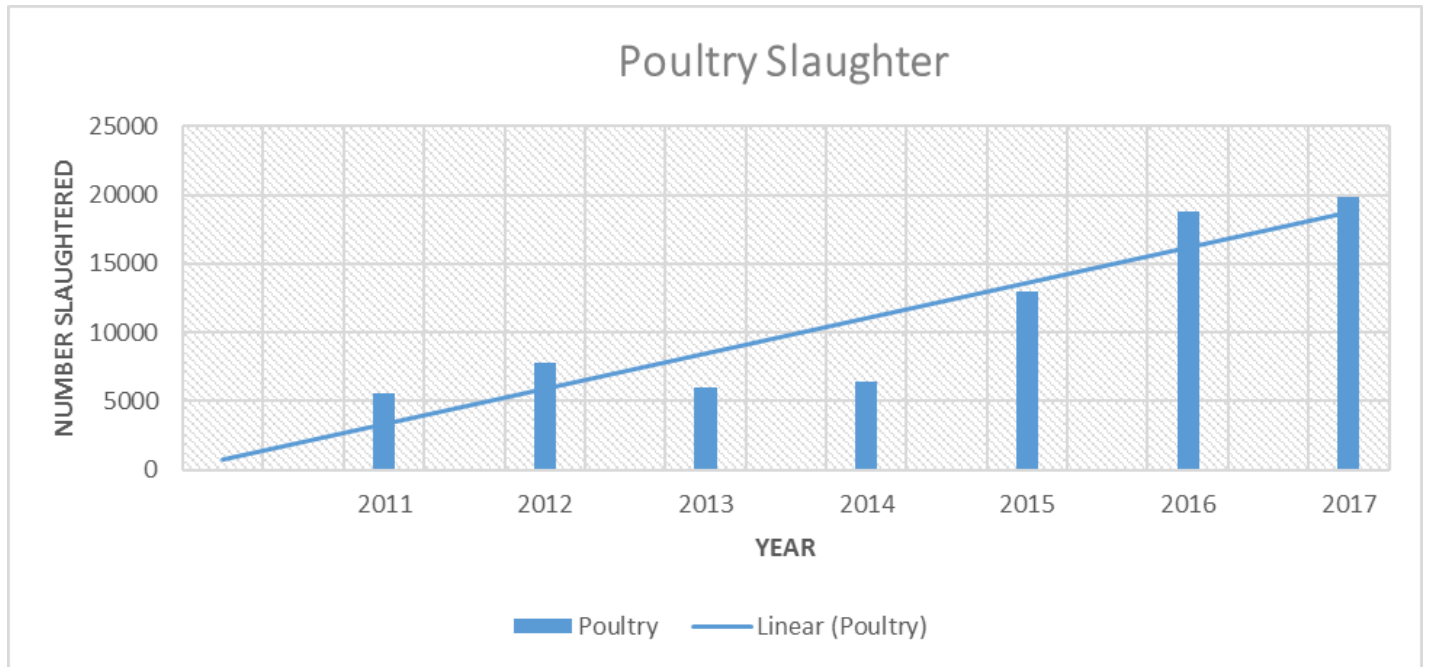
The supply of day-old broiler chicks has also impacted positively on the growth in local production of poultry meat as the graph and table indicate a growth in production and slaughter of broilers locally.



TABLE 1-2 ESTIMATES OF LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION (LBS)

safaedgt

Period	BEEF	MUTTON	MEAT OF GOAT	PORK	POULTRY (Broiler)
2011	484,600	134,600	72,800	248,000	483,500
2012	456,000	132,400	68,700	262,000	485,000
2013	452,000	135,000	66,000	302,000	478,000
2014	465,000	165,000	66,400	322,000	475,000
2015	468,000	178,000	68,000	362,000	460,000
2016	442,000	182,000	66,000	365,000	480,000
2017	445,000	185,000	64,000	360,000	440,000



Despite the achievements of the hatchery, the Animal Health and Production has advised that the annual output of the hatchery is 130,000 day old chicks. In the last 3 years, the facility has been performing at less than half its annual output in each year. This has been mainly due to equipment breakdown and inadequate supply of hatching eggs. Given the significant imports of poultry products, the opportunity still exists for local production to meet domestic demand. It suggests once the limiting factors are addressed on a consistent basis, the hatchery can meet and/or exceed its annual output.



CLOSED SEASON

Mammals: 1st February-30th September

Birds: 1st March-30th September

PLEASE DON'T HUNT US!!








Violations

- Hunting out of season
- Removal of eggs or young ones
- Have wildlife or any part thereof in your possession
- Damage to nest or young of wildlife
- Sell or purchase wildlife

Penalty

Max of \$4000 and up to 1 year imprisonment

Wildlife Protection Act, Chapter 55, Section 17

Forestry Services
 Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Transformation, Forestry,
 Fisheries and Industry
 St. Vincent and the Grenadines
 Phone: (784) 457-8594/ 4533340
 Email: forestrysvg93@gmail.com

LOBSTER CLOSED SEASON



*The Fisheries Division, Ministry of Agriculture Forestry, Fisheries and Rural Transformation is reminding the public, that the lobster closed season is from **1st May to 31st August** both days included.*

*Persons are reminded that during the closed season you **CANNOT** have any lobsters in your possession. You cannot fish, sell, purchase or harm lobsters during the closed season.*

*Hotels and restaurants are reminded that they have a grace period of **the first thirty days of the beginning of the close season** of lobster which is from **1st May to May 30th**, to get rid of any lobsters that you may have in stock. If persons fail to adhere to the regulations you can be fined up to **\$5000.00**.*

The general public is also strongly advised to desist from the buying or selling of lobsters, conch and fish on the streets for health reasons.

The Fisheries Division seeks the cooperation of all persons and encourages members of the general public to report all incidences to the Division or the Police Stations in your area, of any person or establishment found in contravention of the regulations.

**PAKISTAN
DUE**

Public Service **Announcement**

The Farmers Support Company Ltd. (FSC would like to remind all farmers who would have received loans from the Company for the production of various commodities and are delinquent in your loan repayments to settle the outstanding balances immediately

Payments can be made at the Farmers Support Company Office at the Ministry of ,Agriculture's Headquarters, Richmond Hill Kingstown or at the Bank of St. Vincent and .the Grenadines at Account No. 201090

Failure to pay the outstanding balances will result in the Company pursuing legal action against you



MONTREAL GREENHOUSE FACILITY LAUNCHED

On the evening of Monday June 25th this nation witnessed the launch of the first ever Greenhouse Park Facility at Montreal in the Marriaqua Valley. This project is a component of the overall European Union-funded Banana Accompanying Measures (BAM) Project.

BAM is an initiative of the European Union to finance the reorientation of farmers in ACP countries towards diversification of their agricultural sectors following the erosion of preferential arrangements in the UK to bananas.



Greenhouse Park Facility at Montreal

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture Raymond Ryan gave a background of the Greenhouse Park project explaining that the project comes as a result of a study on crop production conducted in the year 2010 by **Israel's Agency for international Development Cooperation and the Centre for International Agricultural Development Cooperation.**

Mr. Ryan revealed that the study recommended the construction of a greenhouse park of 24 hectares at the highest altitude possible. Montreal was one of the sites selected after a review of all

Area Representative for the constituency of Marriaqua, St. Clair "Jimmy" Prince expressed his gratitude for the realization of the project in Montreal and registered his hopes for the future of agriculture here in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. He especially hoped that the facility will serve as a ***teaching agency that farmers in the area will learn best practices and implement them on their own farms.***

Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Hon Camillo Gonsalves was confident that diversified agriculture could continue to play a central role in national economic growth. He saw the greenhouse park facility as a tool in this aspiration.

Minister Gonsalves cautioned against abandoning agriculture so that the notion does not ***position itself on the periphery and in the loopholes of the global financial architecture.***

Minister of Agriculture Hon Saboto Caesar explained that the greenhouse park facility is a part of the ***evolving diversified production platform which continues to develop in the state of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.***

Caesar reviewed the history of Montreal as a productive agro-ecological zone and the strategic placement of the greenhouse park facility in such an area.

He foresees increased involvement of youth in greenhouse production especially in the application of science and technology in intensive crop production.



LtR. Her Excellency Daniela Tramacere, Dr. Hon Ralph Gonsalves, Hon Saboto Caesar and Hon. Jimmy Prince at the head table of the Greenhouse Park Facility launching at Montreal.



Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsalves - Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines delivering the feature address at the launching ceremony.



Her Excellency Daniela Tramacere - Head of delegation of the EU to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean States giving remarks.



Hon Jimmy Prince - Area Representative for Marriagua giving brief remarks at the event.



Hon. Saboto Caesar - Minister of Agriculture, address the gathering at the launching.



Members of the media and invited guest at the Greenhouse Park Launching Ceremony.



Hon. Camillo Gonsalves- Minister of Finance and Economic Planning delivering remarks at the launching.



Hon. Dr Ralph Gonzalves and - Her Excellency Daniela Tramacere involved in a tree planting activity on the facility compound.



Raymond Ryan - Permanent Secretary in Minister of Agriculture delivering remarks at the event.

VincyFresh Weekly and Monthly Fresh Produce Requirements.

Raw Material Requirements	Weekly (Kg)	Monthly (Kg)	Acreage
Basil	32,217.50	128,870.00	25.77
Chive	94,040.00	376,160.00	75.23
Culantro	7,165.00	28,660.00	3.58
Flavour Pepper/Pimento	63,609.91	254,439.64	36.35
Ginger	44,700.00	178,800.00	19.87
Hot Flavour Pepper	10,981.25	43,925.00	6.28
Hot Pepper	61,702.06	246,808.24	35.26
Jalapeno	22,688.75	90,755.00	12.97
Limes	230,950.58	923,802.32	169.36
Mint	730	2,920.00	5.84
Parsley	2,838.75	11,355.00	5.98
Passion Fruit	56,491.11	225,964.44	56.49
Sorrel	103,326.30	413,305.20	42.61
Soursop	5,082.00	20,328.00	75.57
Thyme	18,627.91	74,511.64	13.66

For more information and register your interest, please contact Extension and Advisory Services, Ministry of Agriculture at 456-0310 or email: extensionservices1@yahoo.com or contact VincyFresh directly at 458-5005

WAKE UP TO COFFEE

Shenton Coffee Farms is a Vincentian company dedicated to the reintroduction of coffee to our agricultural sector. We would like to hear from land owners who would like to lease, or sell, land suitable for growing coffee.

Or are you a Farmer interested in growing coffee? Coffee seedlings, technical support, and monitoring, is provided throughout planting, growing, picking and processing at no charge.

COFFEE PREFERS COOL, SHADY LOCATIONS IDEALLY ABOVE 750 FT AND IS SUITABLE FOR INTERCROPPING. IT WILL GROW ON SLOPES, AS WELL AS FLAT LANDS.

For more information or to arrange a meeting please call: +784 527 9615 / +784 530 1952 or call in to our office at Blue Lagoon, Ratho Mill between 8.30am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday

Email: info@shentonfarms.com

www.shentonfarms.com



[shentoncoffeefarms](https://www.instagram.com/shentoncoffeefarms)



[shentoncoffeefarms](https://www.facebook.com/shentoncoffeefarms)





BLACK SIGATOKA MANAGEMENT IN BANANAS GIVEN SIGNIFICANT BOOST

The Banana Industry in St. Vincent and the Grenadines has been given a further boost through the launch of Phase 1 of a Banana Revitalization Programme through Improvement of Black Sigatoka Management Project on Thursday 21st June 2018 at the Orange Hill Agriculture Biotechnology Centre. The project is jointly funded by the Government of St. Vin-

cent and the Grenadines and the Government of China on Taiwan at an estimated cost of EC\$5.2 million dollars.

Ambassador of the Republic of China on Taiwan to St. Vincent and the Grenadines, His Excellency Calvin Ho in delivering the remarks at the launch highlighted the need for the implementation of the project to proceed quickly given the difficulty faced by farmers and the importance of the industry to St. Vincent and the Grenadines. He added that it was important for Taiwan to share its expertise to overcome this challenge in the industry. His Excellency indicated that in spite of the long years of friendship between the two countries and support for several projects, to him, this was one of the most meaningful given the importance of the industry.

In his feature address, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour, Hon. Saboto Caesar thanked the Ambassador for the support of the Government and People of Taiwan for this critical project. He reviewed the context of the banana industry from its inception and noted that the industry and marketplace in the 1950's or in 1992 with preferential market access are not similar to today's marketplace given the removal of preferences. Minister Caesar reiterated that it was more challenging for a banana farmer in 2018 to compete in the global banana market place of today. He noted that he was reliably informed that the market in the UK was asking for an organic banana



LtR. Hon. Saboto Caesar, Minister of Agriculture His Excellency Calvin Ho - Taiwanese Ambassador and Ashley Cain - Chief Agricultural Officer at the launch.

which was something that farmers would have to grapple with. He reiterated that the quest of the project is not to return to production levels of 1992 but to establish a sustainable industry. The Agriculture Minister also noted that given the rise in the incidence of cancer in the population, the Ministry is taking another look at aerial spraying and the use of chemicals. He added that persons were making complaints about aerial spraying and the Banana Services Unit was reviewing options to address the problem.

Phase 1 of the project will cost EC\$662,000 and will focus on control methods to improve Black Sigatoka Management on a pilot area of two hundred acres ranging from Colonarie to Orange Hill. It is anticipated that this project will contribute to the reduction in the incidence of Black Sigatoka on bananas and plantains through public awareness and on farm technical support.



THE WORLD BANK
IBRD • IDA | WORLD BANK GROUP

OECS Agriculture Competitiveness (AGRICOM) Project

Project Objective:

Enhancing Access to Markets and Sales for Competitively Selected Farmers and Fisherfolk

What's on offer:

Matching Grants for Competitively Selected Business Projects for

- **Farmers**
- **Fisherfolk**
- **Aggregators**
- **Agroprocessors**

Benefits from up to:

- **US \$8,000 (80%)** for Farmers and Fishers
- **US \$120,000 (50%)** for Agroprocessors, Aggregators (Marketers, Cooperatives and Lead Farmers or Fishers)

For More Information, Contact:

Ministry of Agriculture, Richmond Hill
Kingstown - St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Tel: 456 - 1111 Ext 311 or 321

Email: agricomsvg@mail.gov.vc or agricomsvg@gmail.com





OECS AGRICULTURE COMPETITIVENESS PROJECT SUCCESSFULLY HOST AGRICULTURE BUSINESS ROUND TABLE

- Approximately 140 participants from several stakeholders groups in the agricultural sector inclusive of farmers, fishers, fishers and farmers organizations, agricultural marketing organizations and companies, agro-processors, financial institutions, technical service providers and public-sector agencies were brought together to dialogue in order to match demands for agri-foods with poten-



tial supply platforms in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, share information on business opportunities in key value chains, potential financing facilities, technical services, and productive capacities among the market place and promote and support the formation or strengthening of Productive Alliances among farmers, fishers, agro-processors, aggregators and supporters in order to capture opportunities in the domestic, regional and international market place.



The primary beneficiaries welcomed the OECS Agriculture Competitiveness Project and identified specific value chains for funding. These included fish harvesting, handling and marketing, production and marketing of fruits, vegetables and food crops, coconut water and oil processing, agro-processed products, cut flowers production and marketing and honey production to name a few. Marketers and agro-processors expressed their willingness to form productive alliances to enhance and secure these value chains and benefit from funding under the project. Opportunities and terms for support financing were also presented.



Participants and stake holders at the OECS AGRICOM Business Roundtable event held at Methodist Church Hall, Kingstown



Hon. Saboto Caesar - Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour delivering remarks at the event.



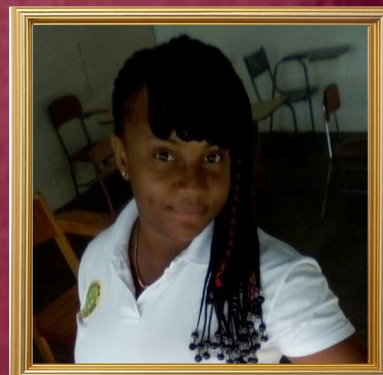
Agri Science and Entrepreneurship Programme 2018



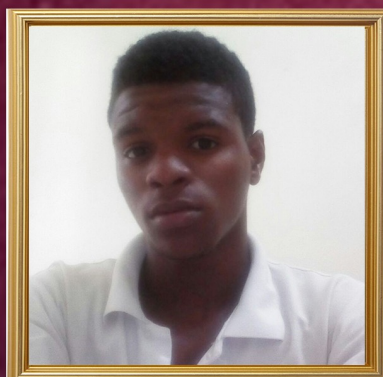
*Armani Gibson
"Pancho's Beef Patties"*



*Nigel Maloney
"LavNac"*



*Carlisha K-B Bob
"Addie Bee's Plantain fries"*



*Anthony Hazel
"Toney's Sweet Potato Flour"*



*Camilliea K Simmons
"Carrot Cinnamon Jam"*



*Chadrick Castello Jr
"Early Spring's Lemongrass Teabag"*



*Marva Mc Donald
"Vincy Blossom's Soursop Leaves"*



*Miliesia Gellizeau
"Gillizeau Jams - Plantain Jam"*



*Shelleen Lewis
"Sweet Turmeric Pepper Sauce"*

SHOWCASING STUDENTS IN THE AGRICULTURE SCIENCE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME AT THE DIVISION OF TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, ST. VINCENT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SHOWCASING STUDENTS IN THE AGRICULTURE SCIENCE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME AT THE DIVISION OF TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, ST. VINCENT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Meet Amani Gibson



Amani is a final year student at the Division of Technical and Vocational Education (DTVE) enrolled in the Agriculture Science and Entrepreneurship Programme, who will be graduating in June. He is 19-years-old from the community of Belair.

He is a young agripreneur involved in Butchering, Amani has been involved in various activities of

butchering from as early as 11 years old. His father is a butcher, so it's basically something in the family, but Amani expressed that he will be the one to take it to the next level. He plans to own a store front meat shop offering specialty meat cuts and other value-added meat products such as sausages, bacon and patties to various consumers, hotels and restaurant.

Amani also plans to further his training in butchering techniques. Reflecting on the programme he pursued at Division of Technical and Vocational Education (DTVE), Amani sees youths as the future of Agriculture and by extension the agriculture enterprise. In order to see growth and changes in agriculture production, He believes youths have to be empowered and exposed to modern methods of agriculture production.

After the training at DTVE, students can start their own business or add value to an existing family business is how he views how important and critical the programme is to national development.

Achievements

- Accepted into the Agriculture Science and Entrepreneurship programme at DTVE to pursue an Associate Degree.
- Being selected to travel to Trinidad in March 2017 for a UWI Tech AGRI Expo to represent the college and exhibit products produced by Agricultural Science and Entrepreneurship students of the Division of Technical and Vocational Education.
- Assisting with the day to day running of his father butchery business.
- Being nominated along with his father for Best of SVG 2018 “Best Butcher.
- Being awarded the 2017 FAO World Food Day Young Agripreneur award.

Internship

Amani is currently pursuing his internship at Midway Butchers Meat Shop. Here, he is being trained to do various specialty cuts

His Favorite Quote: Leadership is not about size, but about knowledge and wisdom.

He expressed thanks to his father Rodney Gibson who he considers his mentor, for his guidance and sharing his practical knowledge with him He also thanks his mother La fleur Gibson for her encouragement and guidance. #AgricultureIsLife.



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Meet Nigel Maloney (Jr)



Nigel Maloney (Jr) is an eighteen-year-old resident of Carapan. He is a young entrepreneur and the founder of LavNac. LavNac is a local cosmetic company which will be engaging in the production of organic bath and body products made from all-natural ingredients.

At the age of four he entered the C.W. Prescod Primary School where he completed his primary education. He completed his secondary education at Bishop's College Kingstown and successfully attained eight passes in his CSEC examinations.

He is attached to the Plant Protection and Quarantine Unit, Ministry of Agriculture at Campden Park. In June he will be graduating from the St Vincent and the Grenadines Community College (SVGCC) where he would obtain an Associate Degree in Agricultural Science and Entrepreneurship.

Nigel became interested in bath and body products after he used a cream from a well-known cosmetic company which left his skin itchy and painful. As a result of his experience he then ventured into making a body butter for his personal use. Nigel also realized that others were facing the same problems, as a result he was motivated to start a business which would produce organic body products to prevent the likeliness of any other person from going through his horrible experience.

Other achievements

- Having his product on local and regional expo's.
- Nigel's goal is to establish his own cosmetic production facility in St Vincent in order to supply local, regional and international markets. Also, for LavNac to be the top seller of organic bath and body products.



His favorite quotes

Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success
If you love what you are doing, you will be successful.” -- Albert
Schweitzer.

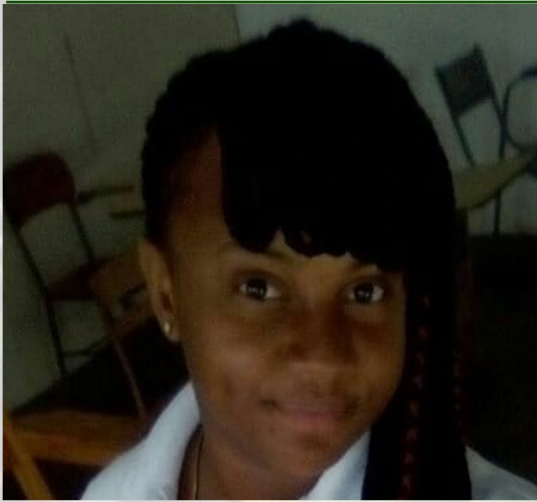
“Build your own dreams, or someone else will hire you to build
theirs.” -- Farrah Gray.

“Successful and unsuccessful people do not vary greatly in their
abilities. They vary in their desires to reach their potential.” -- John
Maxwell.

Nigel attributes his success to God, Parents (Nigel S Maloney and
Urisca E Maloney) and Ms. Michker Edwards.

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Meet Carlisha K.B Gibson



18-year-old Carlisha Gibson is a resident of Yambou, St. Vincent. She is currently a final year student at the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College (SVGCC), Division of Technical and Vocational Education (DTVE) where she is pursuing her studies of AAS Agricultural Science and Entrepreneurship. She is also currently on attachment at the Fisheries Division located in Kingstown.

She is a young agripreneur that has been involved in Farming activities from as early as 5-years-old. Carlisha is the owner of Addie Bee's Plantain Fries and in the future, she is hoping to see the brand 'Addie Bee's' on not only the local, but also regional and international markets with different lines of product using local farm produce in new and innovative ways.

One of the major requirements for this program was to create a product/service. Addie Bee's Plantain Fries was not only developed for a school project but to also minimize the amount of plantain wastage taking place in her family business. She also stated that while she was growing up the only French Fry that has been made available to the market is the all famous potato French fries that are imported, so she also took this opportunity to introduce a new variety of French fry to give more options to consumers.

Message to youths

There is little, or no employment opportunities present here in St. Vincent due to the population and diversity in a work place. Hundreds of students graduate from college each year and most of them are not fortunate enough to get a job. So, the way in which she sees agriculture is that it provides food, and everyone has to eat. Choosing AS Agricultural Science and Entrepreneurship did not only teach her the main concepts of farming but also helped her to develop a product from raw materials grown on a farm to earn a living.

Achievements

- She graduated from the Mountain View Adventist Academy Secondary School with seven (7) subjects
 - She was accepted into the AAS Agricultural Science and Entrepreneurship at DTVE
 - Brought a new taste to the table with Addie Bee's Plantain Fries
- Her favorite quotes

- "Success is not final; failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts." -- Winston S. Churchill
- "In order to succeed, your desire for success should be greater than your fear of failure." -- Bill Cosby

Acknowledgements

Carlisha expresses sincere gratitude to her Mother: Adwen Bennett, Step Father: Alton Bennett, Siblings: Anthony & Kenna George, Developers of LinkUp: Dexwyn & Kimon Stephens and Lecturer: Ms Michker Edwards



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Meet Anthony Hazell

20-year-old Anthony Hazell is a resident of Yambou, St. Vincent. He is currently a student at the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College, Division of Technical and Vocational Education. He is pursuing his studies in the programme AAS (Agricultural Science and Entrepreneurship) and will be graduating in June.



As a little boy he was not knowledgeable about agriculture, but as he entered the Mountain View Adventist Academy (MVAA), his secondary school, he started learning, practicing and becoming more knowledgeable about agriculture. He continued his studies at the tertiary level attending the Technical Division of the Community College. There he learnt more about what agriculture entails and how he can begin his own business by processing local produce into a value-added product extending the shelf life of the crop in a different form. His product is sweet potato flour made from locally grown sweet potatoes in the rich volcanic soil of St. Vincent.

He is hopeful in seeing Vincentians thinking innovatively about making products from local produce rather than importing foreign foods that are unhealthy and increase our trade deficit and contributing to a high import bill. He also states that “once his business is successfully developed and operating well, he will gladly provide employment opportunities for the unemployed youths”. He was on attachment at the Plant Protection and Quarantine Unit at Kingstown and Campden Park for four (4) weeks where he has learnt important tips about improving soil fertility and water retention capacity from experienced soil scientists and Extension officers within the Ministry of Agriculture.

Achievements

Anthony Hazell graduated from the Methodist Catholic Pre-School, then moved on to graduate from the Mesopotamia Government School, after which he attended the Mountain View Adventist Academy graduating in 2016. Currently he is on his way to graduate from the DVTE and move on into life's journey equipped with the skills, knowledge and dispositions that would enable him to become a successful agripreneur.

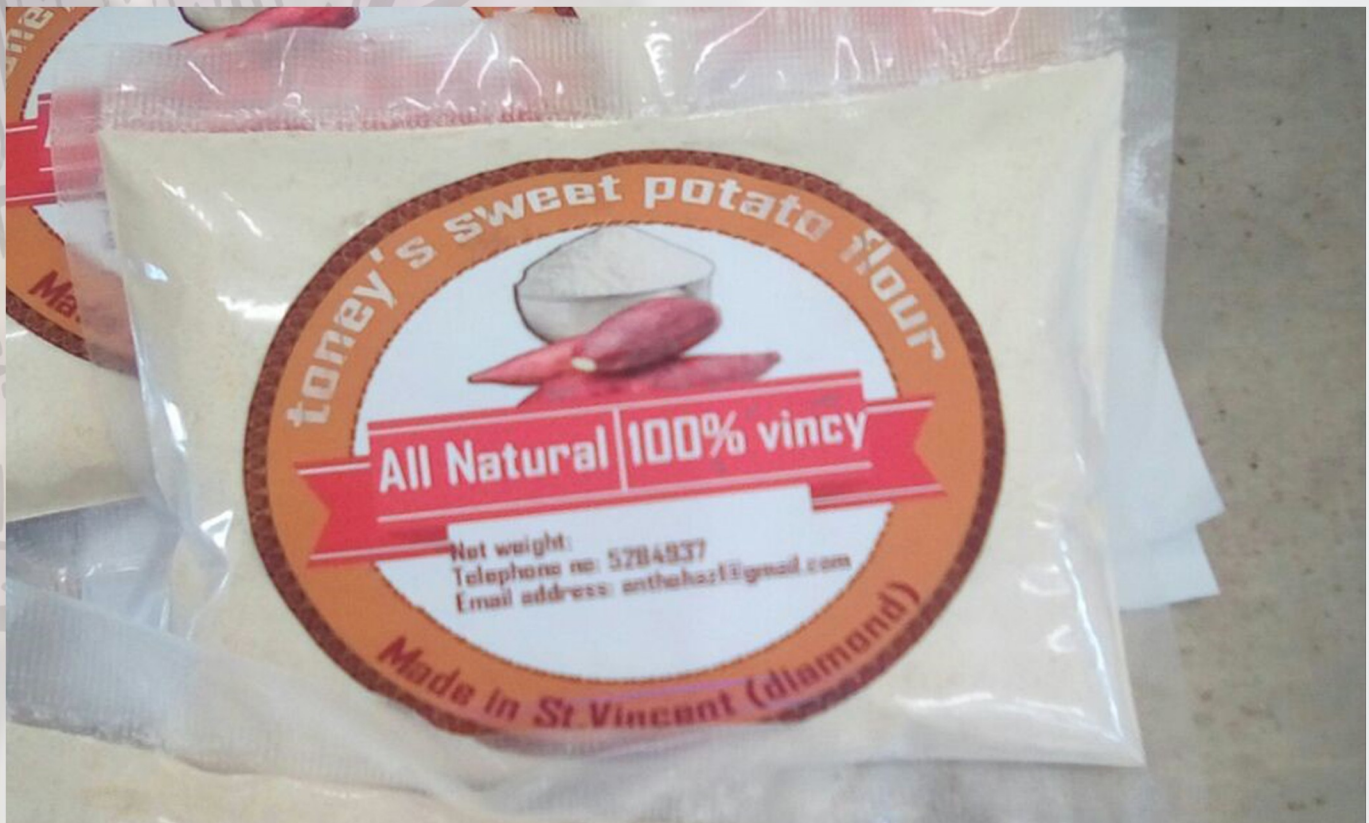
Favorites Quotes

Never give up, set a goal and go for it.

A person can fail many times, but they are not a failure until they give up.

Acknowledgements

Anthony will acknowledge God first of all, his family relatives, friends lecturers and most of all Ms. Edwards for believing in him against all odds.



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Meet Camilliea K Simmons



Camilliea K Simons is a young eighteen-year-old resident of Sion Hill (Roseau). At the age of four Simmons attended the C.W. Prescod Primary School. Much of her weekends were spent in the community of North Union with her grandmother, who was a farmer which engendered her passion for agriculture. Her secondary education was at the Bishop's College Kingstown, where she studied agriculture as a primary subject along with others and successfully graduated with seven (7) CSEC passes.

She is a final year student at the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College (SVGCC) Division of Technical and Vocational Education, and currently is completing her internship at the Eastern Caribbean Group of Companies (ECGC).

In her opinion, the Agriculture Science and Entrepreneurship programme, was set implemented not only to equip the students with the necessary skills for agricultural production but also the skill and knowledge of starting their own agriculture related business, offering a product or a service as a way to earn an income but most importantly in the process using local produce. She also believes that more persons should take an interest in the field of agriculture not just to earn an income but to promote healthy living and to promote and support local agricultural products.

In June, Ms. Simmons will be graduating from St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College with an Associate Degree in Agriculture Science and Entrepreneurship.

Ms. Simmons is a young entrepreneur and the CEO/ founder of All Naturalz. All Naturalz is a business that produces jams made from local fruits and vegetables. The first/foundation product of All Naturalz is a Carrot Cinnamon Jam. This product was not only developed as a part of the school requirement but to foster healthy eating among consumers. Her goal is to push her business forward, reaching individuals

in the wider Caribbean and different parts of the world within 1-2 years of establishment.

Her favorite quote

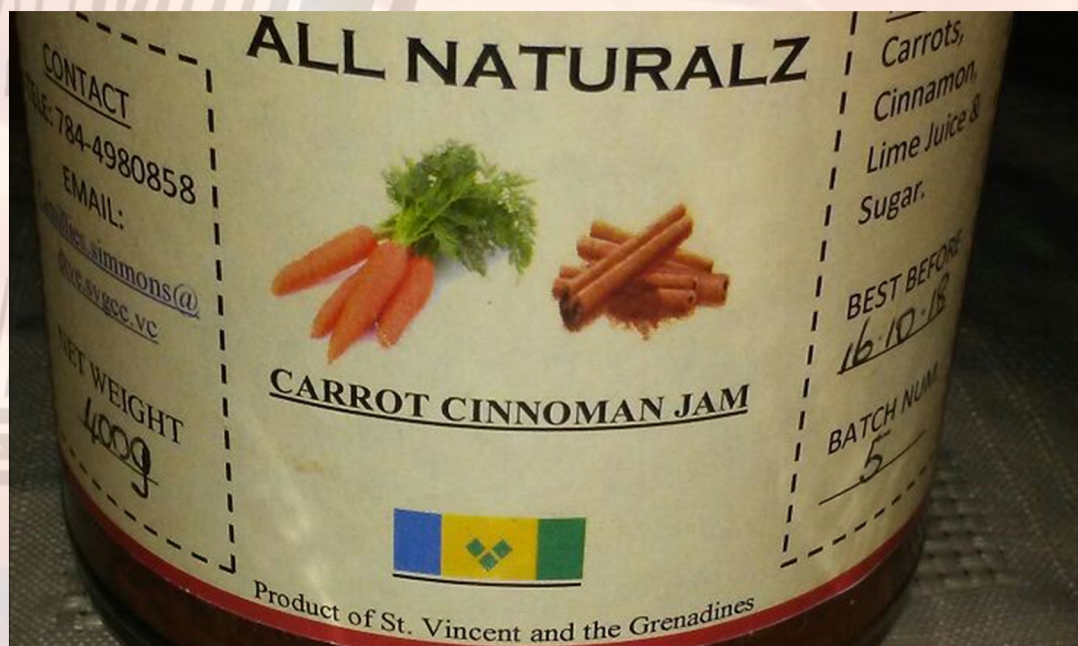
“Do not wish it was easier, wish you were better, don't wish for less problems, wish for more skills, don't wish for less challenges, wish for more wisdom.”- Jim Rohn.

Camilliea attribute her heart filled thanks to God for wisdom courage and understanding, Mr. Jeffranne Richardson, Ms Michker Edwards and Camille Archibald for being her motivators.

Her Thoughts:

Failure is just a phase of life that can be overcome by success.

Failure is not a setback, but it is a mirror for you to fix yourself up and try again.



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Meet Chadrick Castello Jr

18-year old Chadrick Castello Jr. is a resident of Chauncey, St. Vincent. He attended the Kingstown Anglican School where he obtained his primary education, and also is a proud graduate of the Emmanuel High School Mesopotamia where he completed 5 years of secondary education.

He is a young agripreneur who is involved in small scale agricultural production. "I started helping out with farming as small as the age of 7 years old where I would help plant chive, lettuce, celery, parsley, etc", he stated. He is the founder of Early Spring's. Early Spring's is a local enterprise that would be engaging in the production of organic teabags. These teabags are made from different tea plant found on the beautiful island of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. "The first teabag I started out with was the lemongrass teabag", he noted. In the future, he hopes to see different brands of teabags on the market, not only the local but also regional and international markets with different lines of teas using local tea herbs in new and innovative ways. He also plans to branch off into the international market in where he can develop another branch there, which would be responsible for the making of premium teas.



He is a student of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College, Division of Technical Vocational Education (DTVE). He is currently enrolled in the Agricultural Science and Entrepreneurship programme and would complete his programme this year June. Chadrick believes that this programme is a good way of encouraging the youth in our society to take part in agriculture because it doesn't only teach, it also create ideas for Entrepreneurship.

He is currently on a four-week attachment at the Fisheries Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Kingstown.

Achievements

- Accepted into the Agriculture Science and Entrepreneurship programme at DTVE to pursue an Associate Degree
- Being selected to travel to Trinidad in March 2018 for the UWI Tech AGRI Expo to represent the college and exhibit products produced by Agricultural Science and Entrepreneurship students of the Division of Technical and Vocational Education
- Completing 7 years of primary school, 5 years of Secondary School and soon 2 years of my college education
- CSEC subjects which include both Mathematics and English A
- Coming up with a product

Favorite quotes

Robert Frost- “In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on”

Albert Camus- “Don't walk in front of me I may not follow, don't walk behind me I may not lead but walk beside me and be my friend”

Michael Phelps- “You can't put a limit on anything. The more your dream, the farther you get”

Acknowledgement

Chadrick expresses sincere gratitude to his mother, her best friend in Canada, his brother and a special thanks to Ms. Michker Edwards for always encouraging and never given up on him, Mr. Val Matthias for having patience with him.



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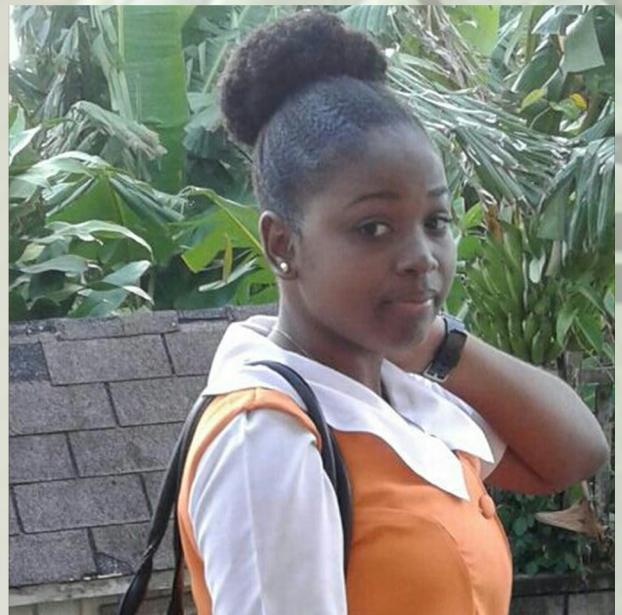
Meet Marva Mc Donald

Marva Mc Donald is a nineteen (19) years old resident of Calder Ridge and also the founder of Vincy Blossoms. Her education started at the Belmont Government School in 2004. She is a graduate of the Emmanuel High School Mesopotamia where she obtained seven (7) CSEC passes. Marva is now a final year student of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College division of Technical and Vocational Education (SVGCC-DTVE).

Marva aspires to be an Agricultural Science teacher in the future and that's why she selected the Agricultural Science and Entrepreneurship programme to expand her knowledge and skills. Product development was a major aspect of the programme and this is where she found her love, hence the development of Vincy Blossoms. Vincy Blossoms is a business that was founded by Marva Mc Donald that produces tea bags. The business first product was soursop leaf tea bags. She chose soursop leaf because of the awesome health benefits gained when consumed, to make it readily available and give customers local options to choose from. After three years of establishment, Marva sees her business being a supplier for the regional and international market with a variety of teabags.

To successfully complete the Agricultural Science and Entrepreneurship programme Marva is attached to the Forestry Services Department at Campden Park.

After being in the Agricultural Science and Entrepreneurship programme Marva realized the entrepreneur aspect of the programme which motivated her towards entrepreneurship, not only in Agriculture but she completed a course in sewing and is currently doing a cosmetology course. Her passion for Agriculture in Secondary School where she learnt both theory and practical and her passion for entrepreneurship was





developed in College.

Marva's favourite quotes

"If there is a good will, there is great way"

William Shakespeare

"The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary"

Vidal Sassoon

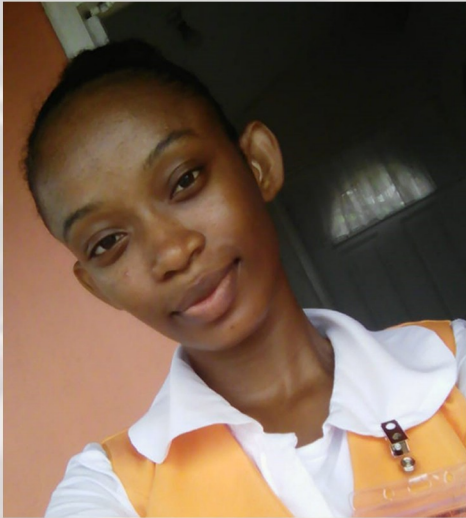
"If you fail to prepare, you're prepared to fail"

Mark Spitz

Marva attributes her success to Father God, her parents Mr and Mrs Mc Donald, her motivating sisters Kerline, Petronella, Julia, Jillian and Paula, close friends and the lecturers in the Agricultural Science and Entrepreneurship programme

SHOWCASING STUDENTS IN THE AGRICULTURE SCIENCE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME AT THE DIVISION OF TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, ST. VINCENT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Meet Millesia Gellizeau



Millesia is a second-year student at the division of Technical and Vocational Education enrolled in the Agriculture Science and Entrepreneurship Programme. She is 22-years old from Ashton Union Island.

She is an agri-preneur involved in agro-processing. She has been involved in family agro-processing activities from the age of 7 years old. Her grandmother was a farmer and thus made products for her visitors. At the Union Island Secondary

she chose to do Agriculture Science in 2012 where she was the only female doing the subject. She became more involved in this programme in 2017 during the product development activities and wanted to provide the local market with a new variety of jam. She plans to offer a line of Vincentian homemade jams and jellies as well as marmalades, etc in which the first product would be Gellizeau's Plantain Jam, to restaurants, hotels, supermarkets and locals.

Millesia also plans to further her studies in Agriculture Science at the Northern Caribbean University in Jamaica or in UWI Trinidad.

The Agriculture Science and Entrepreneurship programme, was very interesting for her, as it seemed as though she would not be able to have the experience of applying/adding value to raw agricultural commodities. In secondary school she only thought of working in the lands and seeing crops grow and making seasoning, stews, etc. for her family to eat. During the programme she realized that it was not just about working in the lands to have something to eat but to provide food and jobs for our Vincentian youths. It has given her the ability to go back to Union Island and develop a business for her family so that she can have an income and possibly employ/train youths within the community and provide quality products for visitors who come to Union Island on their vacations.

Achievements

- Working along with and being mentored by a farmer
- Being accepted into the agriculture and entrepreneurship programme
- Having the agriculture award for 2012 from the Union Island Secondary School
- Receiving a bursary from the ECGC foundation
- Being able to finish studies at the college
- She is currently at the Fisheries Division, Kingstown where she is completing her internship and being exposed to the work of the different units which includes fishing on the high seas, administration, quality assurance and product development, data, biological research and conservation.

Favorite quote comes from life lessons and a bible verse:

- 1 Corinthians 9:24 - “Do you not know that in a race all the runners run , but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it”
- In all things, to be successful is to be persistent...never giving up no matter how hard it may seem. The reward at the end would make you see that it’s all worth it.

Millesia would like to acknowledge the help of God in all of her achievements thus far, her family members Troy Gellizeau and Liston Little, my best and close friends and my lecturers who encouraged me on this academic journey through college.



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Meet Shelleen Lewis



Ms. Shelleen Lewis, an eighteen (18) year old resident of Lowman's Hill.

Ms. Lewis has been actively involved in the agriculture assisting in the care management and marketing of home grow crops with her parents from early childhood.

In her primary years, she was engaged in selling fruits to her school mates during breaks and lunch times. Shelleen maintained this practice while attending the Bishops College Kingstown and the St Vincent and the Grenadines Community College Division of

Technical and Vocational Education where she pursued studies in Agriculture and Entrepreneurship.

After two years of training at the Division of Technical and Vocational Education, the students are equipped with the necessary knowledge to start their own businesses. Shelleen's personal favorite topic was learning how to provide an income using natural resources. Thus inspiring the creation of Sweet Volcanic's.

Shelleen is the developer and founder of the company Sweet Volcanic's. Her first product "Sweet Volcanic's Sweet Turmeric Pepper Sauce" is crafted from a perfect blend of locally grown ingredients. This product aims to provide a diverse taste that adds spice and flavor to any dish imaginable. Ideal for the average hot sauce lover. Turmeric has multifarious benefits so incorporating it with the regular ingredients for pepper sauces allows consumers to conveniently reap these benefits.

Shelleen's goal is to establish her own line of condiments so that patrons locally, regionally and internationally can savor the sweet volcanic rush found in the Gem of the Antilles. She has already exhibited her product for expo's locally and regionally.

Shelleen is currently completing the final component of the Agriculture and Entrepreneurship program as an intern at the Forestry Services in Campden Park. Here she has been exposed to all aspects of agriculture and has developed a greater appreciation for the establishment and their roles.

In June she will be graduating from the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines community College with an Associate Degree in Agriculture Science and Entrepreneurship. Reflecting on the program, Shelleen believes that it is an essential one. However, it may not be as popular as more “glamorized” careers “There are so many opportunities for youths to capitalize on in the agriculture industry, this can only be done by eradicating the stigma against different aspects of agriculture as a profession, a lot of youths have painted the picture that agriculture is just dirt. I plan on showing them otherwise”

Some of her favorite quotes include

The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?’ -Psalms 27.1

I am thankful to all those who said no it’s because of them I did it myself.’ – A.Einstein

The greatness of a man is not in how much wealth he acquires but in his integrity and his ability to affect those around him positively.’ – B. Marley

‘I can and I will’ – S.Lewis

Other Achievements

- Finalist for Pearsons Writing Competition 2011
- Winner of Lowmans Leeward Primary School Public Speaking 2011
- Successfully attained nine (9) passes in her CSEC Examinations 2016. She also gained 2 CCSLC passes
- Being accepted in the Agriculture and Entrepreneurship Program at the Division of Technical and Vocational Education



She attributes her successes to God Almighty, Parents Mr & Mrs. Tredon and Martina Lewis, siblings, mentors, friends, other relatives and her lecturers at the Division of Technical and Vocational Education.



SVG FOOD-BASED DIETARY GUIDELINES TO BE REVISED

• The Ministries of Health, Wellness and the Environment and Agriculture, Rural Transformation, Forestry, Fisheries, Industry and Labour in the collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the 16th and 17th May 2018, hosted an Intersectoral Workshop to update the National Food

Based Dietary Guidelines (FBDGs) of St. Vincent and the Grenadines at the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment Conference Room. The opening ceremony was addressed by the Minister of Health, Wellness and the Environment, Hon. Luke Browne.

The objectives of the workshop are:

1. To raise awareness about the importance of FBDGs
2. To review the methodology proposed by FAO to update the FBDGs
3. To define tasks and responsibilities of the members of the committee
4. To present the results of the current FBDG's evaluation

The workshop was facilitated by FAO International Nutrition Consultant, Ms. Veronika Molina, formed part of a process of Evaluation, Updating and Dissemination of the St. Vincent and the

Grenadines National Food Based Dietary Guidelines under a broader FAO Technical Cooperation Project (TCP/STV/3601) entitled, "Support the Implementation of Selected Activities of the National Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative (ZHCI) Action Plan of St. Vincent and the Grenadines". This project to evaluate, update and disseminate the National Food Based Dietary Guidelines is being implemented at a cost of approximately US\$94,000.00 and involves the following four components.

- a. Evaluate, update and approve the updated St. Vincent and the Grenadines National Food Based Dietary Guidelines (FBDG's)
- b. Develop and Implement Capacity

Building Programs for Food Based Dietary Guidelines

- c. Implement strategy for promotion of the Food Based Dietary Guidelines
- d. Develop and implement a Monitoring and Evaluation plan for the updated FBDGs.

The project is led by the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment through its Nutrition Unit with support from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour through the National ZHCI Coordinator.

In April, the Nutrition Unit commenced the key informant interviews to aid the evaluation of the National Food Based Dietary Guidelines of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

DIETARY GUIDELINES

FOR ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES



IT'S ALL IN THE BREADFRUIT

Eat something from each group everyday

- 1) Eat a variety of foods from the Food Groups shown in the Breadfruit Picture.
- 2) Eat more fruits and vegetables everyday.
- 3) Reduce fats and oils by cutting back on fatty, oily and greasy foods.
- 4) Use steaming, boiling and baking, as often as possible instead of frying, stewing and barbequeing.
- 5) Reduce the intake of sugar: Use less sugar, sweet foods and drinks.
- 6) When cooking use less salt and salted seasonings. Eat less salted foods and snacks.
- 7) Water is essential drink it several times a day.
- 8) If you use Alcohol do so sparingly both in drinking and food preparation.
- 9) Get moving! Increase physical activity daily.

Sponsored by





Vincy Pride

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Fresh Frozen



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WESTERN ATLANTIC
ZONE 31

Exclusively distributed by Rio Trading South Florida Inc

NET WEIGHT: 2.26 KG (5LBS)
POIDS NET: 2.26 KG (5LBS)

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FULLY CLEANED

**CONCH
MEAT**

contains 100% Conch Meat

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ARROWROOT INDUSTRY GIVEN SIGNIFICANT BOOST

Arrowroot remains a viable crop for profits and a sustainable income to farmers and by extension the economy of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. As a result, the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines through the Ministry of Agriculture and other state-owned enterprises such as WINFRESH have taken positive steps to ensure the viability and sustainability of the Arrowroot Industry. To date the following have been addressed:

Arrowroot Industry Association and WINFRESH through an MOU have agreed to establish a Joint Venture Company to boost the marketing of starch. At the end of the 2017-2018 crop, an estimated 250,000 lbs of starch valued at approximately EC\$5 million dollars would be on hand.

The 2017-2018 production season saw 176 farmers producing 139 acres which has thus far yielded 877,767 lbs of rhizomes. The final yield is estimated at 1,079,000 lbs. As a result on June 7, 2018, farmers received EC\$1.3 million dollars for rhizomes sold in the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 production seasons..

Government has been cognizant of the need to replace the current factory with a new one to address competitiveness of the product and the profitability of the association. The following have been addressed:



a. With the assistance of the CDB engaged the International Trade Centre (ITC) to prepare a way forward for the industry with respect to new processing technologies, expanding market shares and installation of quality assurance systems.

b. Based on the ITC Report, a capital project was prepared for a new modern factory.

c. The Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines has received financial support from the Indian Government to the value of US\$1.2 million to assist with the building of the new factory.

d. As a stop gap measure an action plan has been developed to remedy deficiencies at the current factory and ensure production until the new factory has been commissioned.





WARNING!

IMPORTATION OF ITEMS ABOVE REQUIRE:

- **VALID IMPORT PERMIT FROM THE VETERINARY AUTHORITY ST VINCENT & THE GRENADINES**

- **ORIGINAL EXPORT HEALTH CERTIFICATE FROM COUNTRY OF ORIGIN**

ITEMS ARRIVING WITHOUT THESE DOCUMENTS WILL BE
RETURNED TO COUNTRY OF ORIGIN/CONFISCATED AND DESTROYED
under the authority of the Chief Veterinary Officer by order of the Minister

THE IMPORTATION OF PET BIRDS IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED

ADVERTENCIA

LA IMPORTACION DE LOS PRODUCTOS SE REQUIERE:

- **PERMISO DE IMPORTACION VALIDO DE SAN VICENTE Y LAS GRANADINAS**
- **CERTIFICADO DE EXPORTACION DE SALUD ORIGINAL DEL PAIS DE ORIGEN**

LOS ARTÍCULOS QUE LLEGUEN SIN ESTOS DOCUMENTOS
SERÁN DEVUELTOS AL PAÍS DE ORIGEN, CONFISCADOS Y DESTRUIDOS
bajo la autoridad del jefe de la veterinaria por orden del ministro.

LA IMPORTACION DE AVES DE COMPANIA ESTA PROHIBIDO

ATTENTION!

L'IMPORTATION DES PRODUITS ENUMERÉS EXIGE:

- **PERMIS D'IMPORTATION VALIDE DU SAINT VINCENT ET LES GRENADINES**
- **CERTIFICAT SANITAIRE D'EXPORTATION ORIGINAL DU PAYS D'ORIGINE**

LES ARTICLES ARRIVANT SANS CES DOCUMENTS SERONT RENVOYÉS
AU PAYS D'ORIGINE /CONFISQUÉS ET DÉTRUITS,
sous l'autorité du vétérinaire en chef par ordre du ministre.

L'IMPORTATION D'OISEAUX DE COMPAGNIE EST INTERDITE!



Animal Health and Production Division
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries
Richmond Hill
Kingstown
St. Vincent and the Grenadines

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