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**PROCEEDINGS OF THE 30TH ANNUAL MEETING
JULY 31 - AUGUST 5, 1994
ST. THOMAS, U.S.V.I.**

**"Caribbean Economic Stabilization
Through Agricultural Development Strategies"**

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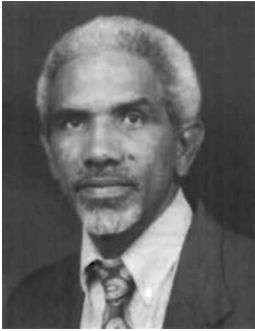
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FOREWORD



From July 30th to August 5th the 30th Annual Caribbean Food Crops Society (CFCS) convention was held in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. This six-day seminar brought together some of the best minds in the area of tropical food production. As with all intellectual gatherings, colleagues profited from each other's research.

These Proceedings of the 30th Annual CFCS Convention highlight the current state of technology and concepts of tropical agriculture, particularly those aspects that pertain to the Caribbean Basin Area.

When a new idea is created or an old one improved upon, it ought to be properly disseminated so that current and future generations may benefit from this knowledge. This is particularly true when these imaginative ideas relate to a developing area such as the Caribbean. Over 60 technical and innovative papers are presented in this document. We will disseminate this document to all interested organizations in the region and hope that the work of our colleagues will truly benefit the people of the Caribbean.

Our staff took much time and effort in producing this document that we all hope will serve a wide range of students, teachers and scientists. I give special thanks to Mrs. Clarice C. Clarke and Dr. Manuel Palada who worked steadfastly in putting this document together.

Kwame Garcia
President - CFCS
Associate Director
Cooperative Extension Service
University of the Virgin Islands

VOTE OF THANKS

Delivered by Miguel Lugo-López
Vice Chairman, Board of Directors, CFCS
August 4, 1994

Thank you, Mr. Master of Ceremonies. Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen. It is indeed a real pleasure and my privilege to extend a Vote of Thanks, on behalf of the directors and members of the Caribbean Food Crops Society (CFCS) and of all other participants in our 30th Annual Meeting, to those who have made, in one way or another, this meeting a reality and a memorable occasion. We always enjoy going back to our roots. The roots of the CFCS are right here in the Virgin Islands where we held our inaugural meeting in 1963. St. Croix was the site of that historical meeting. We returned as a group to St. Croix in 1984, when we became of age, to celebrate our 20th Annual Meeting.

Now, in 1994, we have come back to the Virgin Islands, this time to St. Thomas, to celebrate our 30th Annual Meeting. We long dreamed of coming to St. Thomas and enjoying the hospitality of its people and its beauty. However, we traveled to St. Croix yesterday to get the true feeling of the land where our founding fathers first gathered and to pay tribute to their memory, to their insight, to their vision.

I believe that the CFCS has lived up to what those pioneers envisioned back in 1963. The CFCS is perhaps the only organization of its kind that has outlived all expectations in the region. I am proud, as many of you are, to say that it has become the great, legitimized organization of scientific and technological agriculture in the Caribbean. We have been approached throughout the years by larger U.S. professional organizations and by smaller Central American and Caribbean groups for a merger, but we have withstood those temptations and continued as an independent organization for the past 31 years. I think we can develop effective linkages with others but we can contribute more effectively as we gain strength through our own efforts, to help forge the future of this region.

With this background let us go back to our assignment. A pleasant assignment I should say: to convey our recognition to those who made possible and more pleasant our stay in the Virgin Islands.

Thanks to our distinguished friend Dr. Orville Kean, President of the University of the Virgin Islands, for honoring us with his presence at the Opening Session and for co-sponsoring this event.

Thanks to Dr. Edward M. Wilson, Deputy Administrator of the USDA Cooperative State Research Service, for that excellent and timely keynote address. Dr. Wilson: Please convey our greetings to CSRS Administrator, Dr. John Patrick Jordan.

Thanks are due to Dr. Darshan S. Padda, Vice President of the University of the Virgin Islands, Research and Land-Grant Affairs. As Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer of the CFCS, his participation at this banquet and throughout the week is deeply appreciated. We praise his unflinching faith and his unexcelled leadership. Under his guidance the CFCS has grown from a small professional society to a highly respected regional organization.

Thanks are also due to Senator Osbert Potter, Chairman of the Economic Development, Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee of the Senate of the Virgin Islands for his strong and continuous support. Special thanks to Mr. Eric Dawson, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Economic Development and Agriculture, for co-sponsoring this 30th Annual Meeting of the CFCS with the University of the Virgin Islands and CFCS Local Chapter.

We must give special recognition to Mr. Kwame Garcia, Associate Director, UVI Cooperative Extension Service and President of the CFCS, for his untiring efforts in organizing and conducting an excellent program this week. Thanks to the members of the local CFCS Chapter who helped Mr. Garcia in this challenging and difficult task. I wish I could recognize publicly each of those who

served so willingly and graciously on the Organizing Committee. This will not be possible but as a token of appreciation to all I will just mention one person who symbolically can represent them. I refer to the Chairman of the Organizing Committee, Dr. Louis Petersen.

We have been overwhelmed with the kindness and attentions of the CFCS local group. We are truly grateful. One item I do not want to omit is the cultural event held Tuesday evening which we all enjoyed. It was great. We all enjoyed it. The food was delicious; the drinks, plentiful; the atmosphere, charming; the music lively and provoking.

Thank you.