

**SPEAKING NOTES FOR  
DR. CHRISTOPHER TUFTON, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES  
JAMAICA 4-H CLUBS NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT EXPO**

**DENBIGH SHOW GROUNDS, FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2009**

**BACKGROUND – NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT EXPO**

- The culmination of 14 Parish Achievement and three Regional Expos held islandwide between March and April.
- Held under the theme: **“Youth Response to Food Security”**.
- Featured product this year is Carrot, where clubites prepare by-products for display.
- There is also a special emphasis on Cassava.
- Only first place winners from the Regional Play-offs compete at the National event.
- Competitive events are under the areas of Agriculture, Home Economics, Leadership, Social Skills, Environmental Management.
- Special displays including Healthy Lifestyle, Technology Park, Live Demonstrations

**REGISTRATION DATA**

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- As of March 2009, membership – 70,774
- Breakdown – 66,041 clubites (29,124 males, 36,917 females), 4,733 volunteers
- March 2008, membership – 56,911
- Breakdown – 52,960 clubites (22,048 males, 30,912 females), 3,951 volunteers
- Increase of 13,863 members

**CLUB LEADERS**

- As of March 2009, total number club leaders – 4,733
- March 2008, total club leaders – 3,951
- Increase of 782 leaders

**NUMBER OF CLUBS**

- March 2009 – total number of clubs – 1,013, of this number, 909 are school clubs.
- March 2008 – total number of clubs – 804, of this number 746 were school clubs
- Increase of 209 clubs.

### **TRAINING DATA**

- As of March 2009, total number of clubites trained – 63,353
- March 2008, total number of clubites trained – 39,277
- Increase of 24,076 clubites trained

### **NATIONAL SCHOOL GARDEN PROGRAMME**

- Up to March 2009 – 405 gardens achieved
- Exceeds target of 322 gardens
- Increase of 83 gardens
- Total revenue from gardens in schools \$54,836,647.37
- For the same period – 1926 students trained under the programme.

### **PIG REARING**

- Existing pig breeding facility at Long Pond 4-H Training & Development Centre, Chudleigh Manchester.
- Partnership with Caribbean Broilers to train young pig farmers
- Through this partnership, 28 young pig farmers received training in the care and management of pigs.
- Upon completion each participant received two pure bred pigs.

### **RABBIT REARING**

- During the period, over 2,000 young persons were trained in the care and management of rabbits.

### **GOAT REVOLVING PROGRAMME**

- Through its three goat production and breeding centres, (Montpelier, St. James, Warminster, St. Elizabeth, Mocho in Clarendon), over 37 young farmers have received commercial units of graded stock.
- Number of goat farmers targeted over a four-year period - 120
- These comprise three mature Does and in some instance a Buck and/ access to Buck service.

### **APICULTURE**

- To date 366 colonies of honey
- Some 32 young bee farmers trained in the care and management of bees; each participant received two starter colonies.
- 4-H has started preparatory work towards commercialization of honey.

### **PROJECTS (ACHIEVED)**

## **BROILER PROJECT**

- Through a partnership with Jamaica Broilers, the 4-H Clubs distributed over 80,000 broiler birds to its membership islandwide

## **PEANUT PROJECT**

- Established Peanut Processing facility in Warminster, St. Elizabeth through a grant of US\$100,000.00 received from the Japanese Embassy with additional funding from the Jamaican Government.
- The facility has a capacity to produce in excess of two million (32 gramme) sachets of peanuts (Valencia variety) annually.
- The World Brand Division of Grace, Kennedy Co. Limited will be the main distributor of the Clover brand peanut through its main distribution channel.

## **PROJECTS IN PROGRESS**

- Mocho Goat Project which received a grant of \$6,040,000
- EFJ Waste Water Management (Rose Hall 4-H Centre) - \$2,040,000
- JBI Tractor & Home Economics Programmes - \$4,021,000
- FAO Small Ruminant Programme – US\$390,000

## **PROJECTS SUBMITTED**

- EU Projects – Six (6) mini projects valued at \$1,500,00
- FAO - Green House (HQ) - \$850,000
- FAO - Bees (Rose Hall) - \$844,730
- EFJ - Alternative Energy – Denbigh - \$8,145,100
- EFJ - Vegetable Production/Green House Technology - \$8,600,00
- EFJ - Technology Park (Denbigh) - \$6,526,102
- EFJ - Recycling of Bio-Digester Water Project - \$660,198
- GEF Small Grants Programme – Green House Techology - \$2,069,750
- **GRAND TOTAL = \$27,195,880**

## **TRACTOR MAINTENANCE & OPERATION PROGRAMME**

- Approximately 128 persons trained to date under this programme
- Upon completion participants receive NCTVET/NQVJ Levels 1 and 2 standard certification as well as Drivers' Licences by the National Licensing Authority.
- Approximately 80 per cent of these persons have been employed.

## **FOOD PREPARATION PROGRAMME**

- To date some, 50 persons were trained under this programme.

- These participants also receive NCTVET/NQVJ Levels 1 and 2 standard certification
- Level of employment for participants similar to that of the Tractor Programme.

*Prepared by:*

*The Public Relations Department*

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