

PRESS RELEASE
May 2nd, 2005

VISIT TO THE CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE IN MARTINIQUE

A team of agricultural professionals from St. Lucia, headed by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Hon. Ignatius Jean, paid a courtesy visit to the Chamber of Agriculture in Martinique on what was deemed a highly successful visit.

The trip which was made possible by the French Embassy to the OECS, gave the local delegation a thorough insight on the professional attitude taken by the Martiniquans in conducting business of Agriculture. A packed itinerary of the April 28th to 30th visit, saw the delegation to several agricultural institutions where they were well received in a spirit of hospitality and friendship.

These courtesies cannot be over emphasized and the local team wishes to extend its profound appreciation to the Chamber of Agriculture, the Prefect, the Consul General, the Consul Regional, other Agricultural personnel and the media in Martinique.

Special mention must be made of the outstanding service of Mr. Guy Ovide-Etienne, President of the Chamber of Agriculture in organizing and co-ordinating the site visits.

Our profound gratitude extends also to Cassius Elias, Consul General of the Consulate of St. Lucia in Martinique in making the visit possible.

Of particular interest were operations at the national abattoir, the Socapma, an organization similar to the St. Lucia Marketing Board, the areas of cut flower production and adding value to products and the training of youngsters for the field of agriculture.

The trip remains an unforgettable experience for the entire delegation, which had representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, the St. Lucia Agriculturist Association, the St. Lucia Marketing Board and the Banana Industry.

St. Lucia remains committed to enhancing the mutual cooperation between our farmers and professionals and those of Martinique as was agreed in the joint declaration between the two countries.

Some Footage of Courtesy Visit to the Martinique Chamber of Agriculture



Delegation Meeting during Courtesy Visit



Delegation on a Site Visit



Delegation on another Site Visit