



CARIBBEAN AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY AGENCY

RPPO-CAHFSA-Report

IPPC High-Level Symposium on Cooperation on Phytosanitary Measures among the Chinese Initiative “One Road” Countries

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OVERVIEW

1. Background
2. Activities undertaken on regulated pests
3. Cases of surveillance and control of regulated pests
4. Emerging issues
5. Challenges and opportunities
6. Suggestions on bilateral and regional cooperation



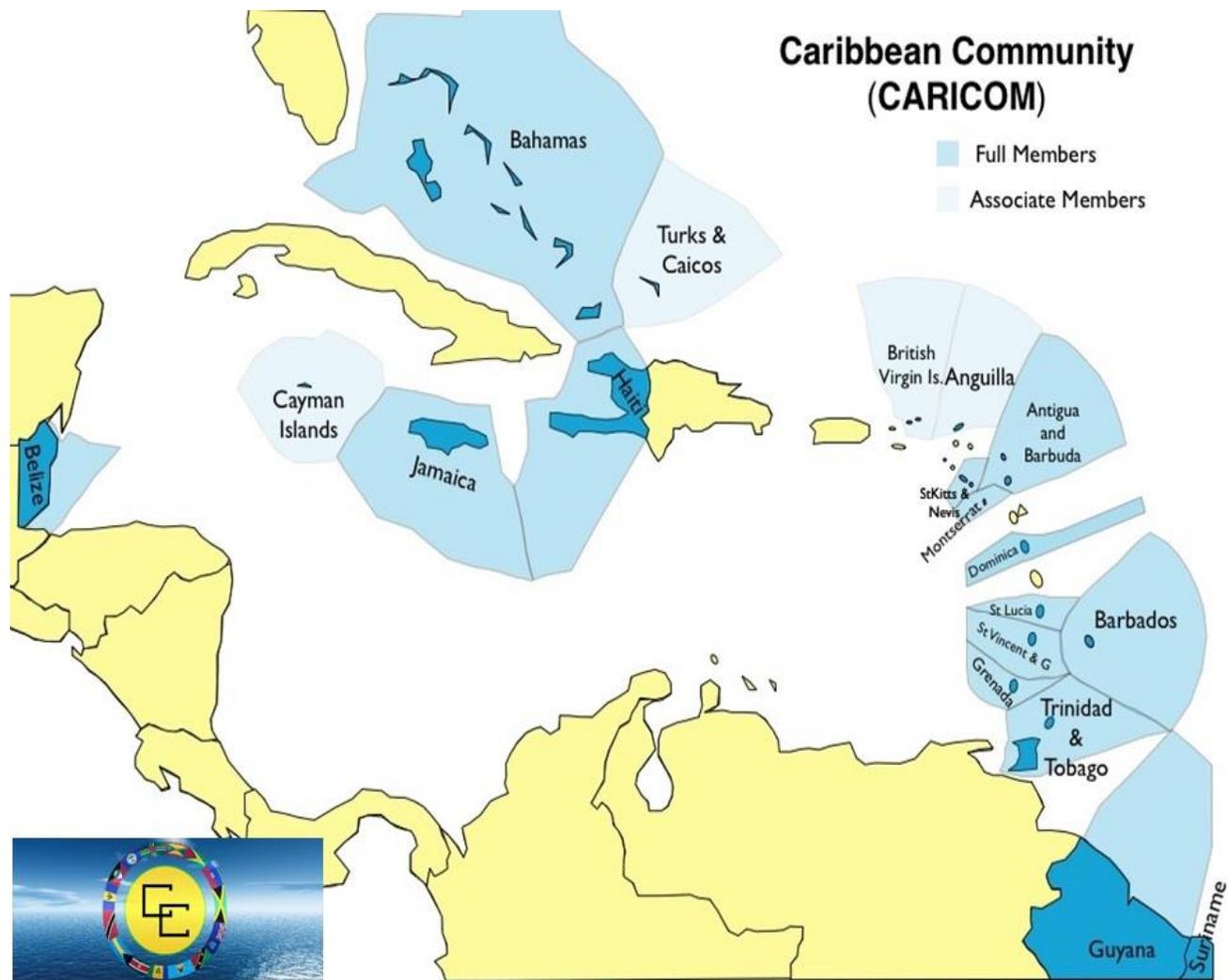
- The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) is a grouping of **twenty countries**:

1. Background CARICOM

25-28 September 2018



Background



15 MEMBER STATES: Antigua and Barbuda. Bahamas. Barbados. Belize. Dominica. Grenada. Guyana. Haiti. Jamaica. Montserrat. Saint Lucia. St Vincent and the Grenadines. Suriname. Trinidad and Tobago.

5 ASSOCIATE MS: Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands





- The region is home approximately 16 million citizens, 60% of whom are under the age of 30,
- From the main ethnic groups of Indigenous Peoples, Africans, Indians, Europeans, Chinese, Portuguese and Javanese.

Languages

- English, Dutch, French and variations of these, as well as African and Asian expressions
- **Official Language is English**
- French and Dutch as official language
- Spanish as working language
- **Caribbean Community (English)**
- Communauté caribéenne (French)
- Caribische Gemeenschap (Dutch)
- *Comunidad del Caribe* (Spanish)



Background CAHFSA

Mandate

CAHFSA was established to perform a coordinating and organizing role in the **establishment of an effective and efficient regional sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) regime** and to execute SPS actions and activities that can be more effectively and efficiently **executed through a regional mechanism.**

*Within this framework, the Agency was to **replace** the defunct **Caribbean Plant Commission***

Recognized as the 10th Regional Plant Protection Organization during CPM-13



Background 4_ Legal Instruments



Revised Treaty of Chagaramas (Articles 57 and 74).



Revised Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA): **February 25, 2011;**



Original Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency: **March 12: 2010**



Thematic Areas

Research and Human Resource Development

Climate Change and Natural Resources Management

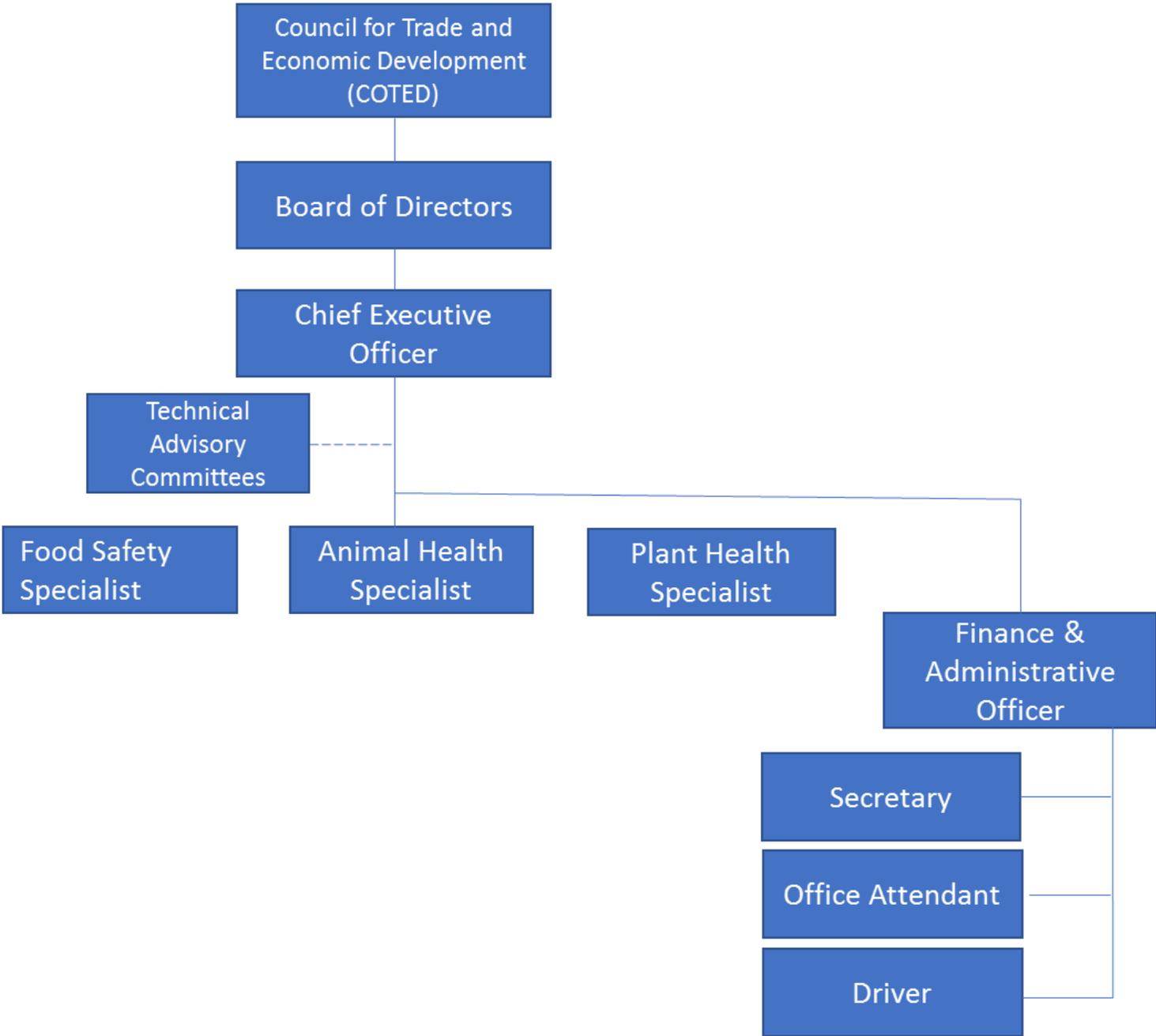
Business Development

Agricultural Health and Food Safety

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Organizational Structure





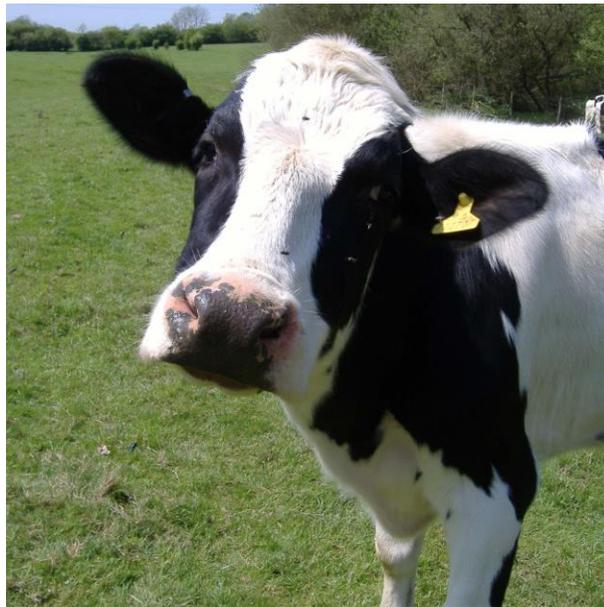
CAHFSA is funded through annual contributions from Member States assessed at approximately US\$380,00 per annum

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THREE MAIN AREAS



ANIMAL HEALTH



FOOD SAFETY



PLANT HEALTH

MAIN AREAS OF FOCUS

Legislation and
Standards

Capacity Building

Information
Exchange and
Dissemination

Rapid Response
and Safeguarding

Regional and
International
Cooperation

Regional Trade
Facilitation and
Dispute
Settlement

2. Activities on regulated pests

Regional Priority Pests

1. *Ceratitis capitata* (Weiderman)
2. *Fusarium oxysporum* f. Sp. *Cubense* (E.F. Smith)
3. *Tuta absoluta* (Povolny)
4. *Ralstonia solanacearum* race 3 Biovar 2 (E.F. Smith)
5. *Moniliophthora roreri*
6. Coconut lethal yellowing
7. *Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv. *citri* (Hasse) Vauterin et al
8. Citrus leprosis virus C (CiLV-C)
9. Fiji disease
10. Bacterial Panicle Blight

- *Development of a regional priority (Regulated) pest list;*
- *Development of a database on regionally regulated pest*
- *Training in the development of a regulated pest list as per ISPM 19;*

2. Activities on regulated pests

FACT SHEET CARICOM REGULATED PESTS 

Giant African Snail

Achatina fulica (Bowdich),
Gastropoda: Achatinidae

INTRODUCTION

The Giant African Snail (*Achatina fulica*) is a polyphagous plant pest that has been growing quickly since leaving its native region in East Africa. The pest was introduced to other areas as a commercial food source and a novelty pet. At any stage of its development, it can easily become attached to machinery and transport vehicles, allowing it to travel over long distances. *A. fulica* has been classified as one of the world's top 100 invasive alien species by The World Conservation Union.

Within the Achatinidae, four species are classified as giant African snails: *Achatina achatina*, *A. fulica*, *Archachatina marginata*, and *Limicolaria aurora*.

DESCRIPTION

The adults are on average 5-10 cm, but can be bigger than 20 cm in shell length, 7-20 cm in height and on average weigh 32 grams. The Giant African Snail (GAS) has a narrow, conical shell which is twice as long as it is wide (Fig. 1). As an adult the shell normally contains 7 to 9 whorls and is generally reddish-brown with light yellowish markings (Fig. 2). However, colouration varies with environmental conditions and diet. Each snail contains both female and male reproductive organs. After a single mating session, each snail can produce a batch of 100 to 400 eggs. *A. fulica* produces large eggs that are 4.5 to 5.5 mm in diameter (Fig. 3) and only hatch at temperatures above 15 degrees Celsius.

BIOLOGY

The snails prefer areas rich in calcium and flourish in areas with limestone, marl and places with concrete and cement.



Figure 1: Adult GAS. Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org



Figure 2: Adult GAS shell David G. Robinson, USDA APHIS PPC, Bugwood.org

Pictures sourced from <https://www.invasive.org/browse/subthumb.cfm?sub=7130&start=1> on August 22, 2018

Prepared under the FAO Regional Project: Strengthening Quarantine Services for Plant and Animal Health in Three OECS Countries, Executed by CAHFSA

- *Maintenance of voucher specimens*

- *Development of fact sheets, quick reference guides.*

Cases of Surveillance and Pest Control

Production of a regional surveillance manual

Regional surveillance training, September 2015

Regional surveys

Regional surveillance for fruit flies with data uploaded into a regional interactive database

Regional surveillance for the red palm weevil (*Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*)

3. Cases of Surveillance and Pest Control

- *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* (Red palm Weevil) (RPM), a regionally regulated pest was accidentally introduced into the Caribbean on imported date palms.
- Quickly spread to another country.
- This triggered a regional response including surveillance and identification training.
- *This pest is still confined to two territories.*





Cases of Surveillance and Pest Control

- *A regional fruit fly surveillance programme, including training and a regional database was established to assist Members in early detection, reporting and information sharing.*
- *This programme supported the early detection, containment and (hopefully) eradication of the *Anastrepha obliqua* (West Indian Fruit Fly) following its detection in traps in the Cayman Islands.*





4. Emerging issues



Climate change and variability (Changes in food production patterns and trade, changes in crop/pest interactions).



Resource limitations (Conflicting priorities for resources and funding/ reduced budgetary allocation)



Declining human resource (shortage of persons with appropriate plant health skills and knowledge, difficulty in attracting and retaining people to the agriculture sector).



Emerging issues



Loss of plant protection products (change in the range of registered agricultural products available, alternatives costly or require substantial inputs).



Technology trends (continuing developments in molecular biology and genetics where the region lacks the capacity)



Emerging Plant Pests (*Xyella fastidiosa*, Exotic fruit fly species,

5. Major Challenge

Lack of Economies of Scale

The Caribbean Region comprises small developing and least developed countries with populations as small as 5000 persons.

*In most cases the agricultural sector is very small (approx. 0.1% GDP) and **dimension of the sector cannot justify or support the level of investment necessary** for an effective phytosanitary system.*

Very limited resources are channeled into other areas.

Opportunities



- *Caribbean is also a very intimate community. Many islands are close together, some with free movement of people.*
- *This provides an opportunity to regionalize some phytosanitary services.*
- *Opportunity to engage each other on a regional level to offset constraints faced domestically.*



Suggestions on bilateral and regional cooperation



Share

Share knowledge and experience, including possible exchanges of officials;



Exchange

Exchange of information on areas such regulatory systems, domestic practices and programmes for pest management



Coordinate

Coordinate positions in the activities of regional and international organizations

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Conduct joint research and share the results of such research in areas, such as:

- Surveillance
- Pest diagnosis
- Contingency planning
- Pest risk analysis



Share ideas

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謝謝

Merci

Thank You

