

ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE RURAL
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2018

The matter for tabling in the Houses of Parliament is the Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements of the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA), for the year ended March 31, 2018. This report is being tabled in accordance with Section 12 (2) of the Rural Agricultural Development Authority Act 1990.

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES

Listed below are some of the achievements of the Authority and activities within the agricultural sector for the year under review:

i. Farmer Training

The Authority initiated the Farming as a Business Farmer Field School in response to the many challenges impacting, farming activities in Jamaica. To date, the parishes of St. Mary, Trelawny and St. Ann have been using this new approach to build the capacity of various farmer groups. During the reporting period, the Authority trained 37,913 farmers, representing 97.2% of the original target of 39,000 for the year. Farmers were trained through the delivery of 3,101 training sessions.

ii. Social Services/Home Economics Programme

The Social Services/Home Economics Unit maintained its support for rural farm families to improve their quality of life. For the review period, emphasis was placed on the following areas: improved nutrition and increased use of local foods, product development and micro enterprises to increase family income.

Processors continued to utilize the drying and milling services offered at the Twickenham Industry facility. Herbs, spices, condiments and staple flours continued to be the main items processed for repeat clients. A replacement Powder Grinder is being procured to improve and increase the production of cassava products. Despite the many challenges encountered during the year, over twenty (20) women and youths secured employment at the facility. An income of over JA\$23.9M was earned from approximately 745,000 units of production. Additionally, with the procurement of new equipment, further improvement is expected.

iii. Plant Health/Food Safety

The Plant Health/Food Safety Unit's programmes and activities were focused on, farmer and staff capacity building in Integrated Pest Management (IPM), proper use of pesticides and adhering to good agricultural practices in keeping with food safety guidelines. The monitoring of production systems island-wide ensured early detection of pest and timely initiation of rapid pest response systems for pest containment and the safeguarding of Jamaica's food security.

The Unit continued its pest surveillance for the following pests and diseases of economic and quarantine significance over the period under review: Beet Armyworm, Fruit Flies, Frosty Pod Rot of Cocoa and Citrus Black Spot. (Citrus Black Spot and Frosty Pod Rot identified in the 2015/16 and 2016/17 fiscal years respectively).

iv. Protected Agriculture

The Protected Agriculture Unit continued to provide technical advisory services to the wider greenhouse vegetable producers. The primary objectives of the Unit were to:

- i. Increase the adoption and application of best agronomic practices in the management of crops; and
- ii. The implementation of prudent farm business management practices for the optimization of crop yields and the maximization of farm profits.

The Unit collaborated with the Jamaica Greenhouse Growers Association to distribute greenhouse plastic and side-netting materials valued at \$5M, which benefitted 24 selected growers in the major production parishes of Manchester, St. Elizabeth and St. Ann. This initiative was as a result of the 2017-2018 MICAF/RADA Production Incentive Programme. It is important to note that eight (8) of the beneficiaries were female greenhouse farmers.

An island-wide survey of greenhouses, conducted on a parish by parish basis revealed that a total of 4,180.64 Sq. metres was added during the year. During the same period, 2,229.67 Sq. metres of idle greenhouse capacity was returned to production.

v. National Irish Potato Programme

This Programme evolved from the Financial Access for Responsible Members (FARM) Programme in 2008 and aims to develop the Irish potato value chain. During the 2017/18 planting season (Fall to Spring), 1,000 hectares were established by 3,003 farmers, producing a marketable yield of 10,000 tonnes. A special component of the Programme targeted youths up to 35 years old and women who showed serious interest to farm Irish potatoes. This resulted in 478 participants receiving grant assistance to plant 44 hectares.

Capacity building for farmers resulted in 4,300 participants trained in various aspects of Irish potato production, in the areas of crop care, post-harvest management and group dynamics. In order to facilitate knowledge transfer in best practices, nine demonstration plots were established on which 30 Farmer Field School sessions took place. Eighty farmer training sessions were also conducted by the field staff. In addition, 10 Farmer Field Tours were organized by the Extension staff with assistance/sponsorship from the Promotion of Regional Opportunities for Produce through Enterprises and Linkages (PROPEL) project through the World University Service of Canada (WUSC).

vi. Farm Road Rehabilitation Programme

The objective of this programme is consistent with the development priorities of the Government. In this regard, the programme was designed to assist in the rehabilitation of farm roads across Jamaica, towards the growth and improvement of the agricultural sector in targeted high production areas.

For the 2017/18 review period, fifty- three (53) roads were completed, totaling 77.68 km and costing \$322M. Ten roads are at various stages of completion and work will continue in the year 2018/2019. It should be noted that priority was given to five (5) parishes, namely; Portland, St. Mary, Trelawny, St. Andrew (East Rural) and St. Ann based on the flooding which took place during May 2017. The activities undertaken included: re-surfacing, patching, cleaning, construction and improvement.

vii. On-Farm Water Management

The increase in agricultural production and productivity depends, largely on the availability of water. Agriculture currently accounts for about 70% of global freshwater usage. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (UN) forecasts that, by 2050 global water requirements for agriculture will increase by 50% in order to meet the food demand of the growing population. In this regard, RADA has sought to address this concern through the work of the On-Farm Water Management Unit. The objectives of the Unit are to:

- Plan, direct and implement on-farm water management and drainage techniques by providing technical advice of a high standard to the farming sector;
- Assist farmers to improve their knowledge and income by the adaptation of suitable on-farm irrigation systems through technology transfer ;
- Promote sustainable use of land and water resources through appropriate water management techniques;
- Help farmers optimize the use of scarce water resources by helping them improve their on-farm water use efficiency whilst improving productivity.

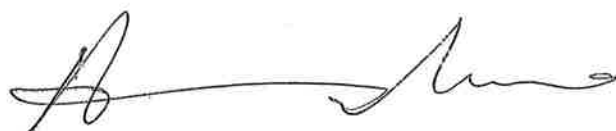
3. SALARY AND EMOLUMENTS

The emoluments of the Directors and Senior Executives for the 2017/18 year are included at appendices I and II.

4. AUDITOR'S REPORT

BDO Jamaica Chartered Accountants audited the Financial Statements. In their opinion, the financial statements gave a true and fair view of the Authority's financial position as at March 31, 2018. They have stated that RADA's financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, are in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

The Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements of the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA), for the year ended March 31, 2018 is hereby submitted to be tabled in the Houses of Parliament in accordance with Section 12 (2) of the Rural Agricultural Development Authority Act 1990.



Audley Shaw CD, MP.

Minister of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries

July 27, 2019

DIRECTORS' COMPENSATION 2017/18

Position of Director	Fees (\$)	Motor Vehicle Upkeep/Travelling or Value of Assigned Motor Vehicle (\$)	Honoraria (\$)	All Other Compensation including Non-Cash Benefits as applicable (\$)	Total (\$)
Genille Atalla - Chairman	114,700.00	106,152.00			220,852.00
Annette Henry	33,000.00	1,381.80			34,381.80
Michael Stern	129,550.00	0.00			129,550.00
Sheila Pryce	79,050.00	70,824.00			149,874.00
Mickey Crawford	178,300.00	146,696.40			324,996.40
Fabian Lewis	145,000.00	202,164.00			347,164.00
Egbert Miller	127,750.00	128,430.00			256,180.00
Nigel Myrie	133,550.00	188,000.00			321,550.00
Dave Powell	84,500.00	54,144.00			138,644.00
Novell Quest	192,750.00	0.00			192,750.00
Anthony Scott	189,300.00	161,153.00			350,453.00
Olive Downer-Walsh	67,050.00	31,345.60			98,395.60
Lola Marshall-Williams	202,400.00	258,806.00			461,206.00
Lowell Dilworth	61,500.00	0.00			61,500.00
Total	1,738,400.00	1,349,096.80			3,087,496.80

SENIOR EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION 2017/18

Position of Senior Executive	Year	Salary (\$)	Gratuity or Performance Incentive (\$)	Traveling Allowance or Value of Assigned Motor Vehicle (\$)	Pension or Other Retirement Benefits (\$)	Other Allowances (\$)	Non-Cash Benefits (\$)	Total (\$)
Chief Executive Officer	2017/18	6,404,549.00		687,041.00	832,591.00			7,924,181.00
Principal Director, Field services & Operations	2017/18	4,648,460.00		1,341,624.00	604,300.00			6,594,384.00
Principal Director, Corporate Services	2017/18	4,648,460.00		1,341,624.00	-			5,990,084.00
Principal Director, Technical Services	2017/18	4,074,924.00		1,341,624.00	485,544.00			5,902,092.00
Snr Director, Finance & Accounts	2017/18	3,895,976.00		1,341,624.00	-			5,237,600.00
Snr Director, HRM and Administration	2017/18	3,123,664.00		1,341,624.00	406,076.00			4,871,364.00
Snr Director, Production, Marketing & Special Projects	2017/18	3,328,320.00		1,341,624.00	423,714.00			5,093,658.00
Director, Corporate Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation	2017/18	2,490,335.00		703,128.00	323,744.00			3,517,207.00
Manager, Irrigation Unit	2017/18	2,485,188.00		703,128.00	314,361.00			3,502,677.00
Snr Director, Social Services/ Home Economics	2017/18	3,404,654.00		1,341,624.00	-			4,746,278.00
Zonal Director - West	2017/18	3,503,535.00		1,341,624.00	462,381.00			5,307,540.00
Zonal Director - East	2017/18	3,993,662.00		1,341,624.00	-			5,335,286.00
Senior Director Training, Technology and Technical Information	2017/18	3,057,656.00		1,341,624.00	380,768.00			4,780,048.00
Information and Communication Technology Manager	2017/18	2,533,130.00		703,128.00	-			3,236,258.00
Chief Internal Auditor	2017/18	2,158,099.00		703,128.00	-			2,861,227.00
Parish Agricultural Managers 1-13	2017/18	42,697,603.00		14,887,128.00	2,796,587.00			60,381,318.00
TOTAL		96,448,215.00		31,802,921.00	7,030,066.00			135,281,202.00