



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FISHERIES

Jamaica's Commemoration of the International Day of Plant Health 2022

Jamaica joined the world in commemorating the International Day of Plant Health on May 12 under the theme “Protecting plant, protecting life”. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries’ Plant Quarantine/ Produce Inspection Division spearheaded the planning and execution of activities. The celebration of the IDPH was nestled in a week of activities, all geared toward advancing the objectives at the IDPH. Augmenting the week’s activities were numerous media engagements.

Week of Events

Sunday May 8, the week of activities was launched with a church service held at the Mona Baptist Church. The day, also being celebrated as mothers’ day, saw all women being gifted fruit trees and ornamentals from the ministry’s Public Gardens Division.

Monday May 9 saw the public awareness activity entitled “Safeguarding Ports”. This was held at the island’s two Regional Offices (Norman Manley International and Sangster International Airport) and Plant Quarantine Head Office as well as the Jamaica Import Export Center (Kingston Wharf). The day saw customers and other stakeholders being engaged by way of information dissemination and quizzes with prizes attached.

A key program of the IDPH week of activities held on **Tuesday May 10** was: “Educating Youths on Plant Health” Outreach. Three tertiary-level educational institutions were impacted – The College of Agriculture, Science and Education (CASE), The Ebony Park HEART Academy and the Knockalva Polytechnic Institute. Presentations were done at each institution to highlight the importance of plant health, the roles and objectives of the Plant Quarantine Produce Inspection Division and also to encourage young people to be a part of the initiative. Other institutions and community members were invited to participate in the day’s activities and booths were set up to facilitate students being able to interact with the Plant Quarantine Inspectors and ask their questions as well as collect useful printed information on careers in Agriculture and the importance of plant health. Each school was gifted fruit trees that were planted in commemoration of International Plant Health Day 2022. These were handed over to the Administrative staff and a planting ceremony held.

Thursday May 12, being the designated International Day of Plant Health, saw a major forum being staged at the headquarters of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. A

number of key stakeholders mounted displays. The keynote address was delivered by Honourable Pearnel Charles Jr., Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and was ably chaired by the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Dermon Spence. The program saw a number of presentations from key agencies and individuals such as: the Minister of State – Hon. Franklin Witter, Chief PQ Inspector, FAO, CARDI and IICA.

A significant delegation from the Cayman Islands was in attendance and Hon Johany Ebanks – Minister of Planning, Agriculture and Housing addressed the gathering. As youth engagement was a major thrust of Jamaica's celebrations, a number of schools from across the island were represented. Some of whom collected prizes for their performance in the inaugural IDPH poster competition.

Friday May 13, The week came to a close with a Collaborative event. The PQPI joined the Jamaica 4H Clubs' National Expo- another grand opportunity to spread the IDPH message among the youth.

Photos of the Week's Activities.

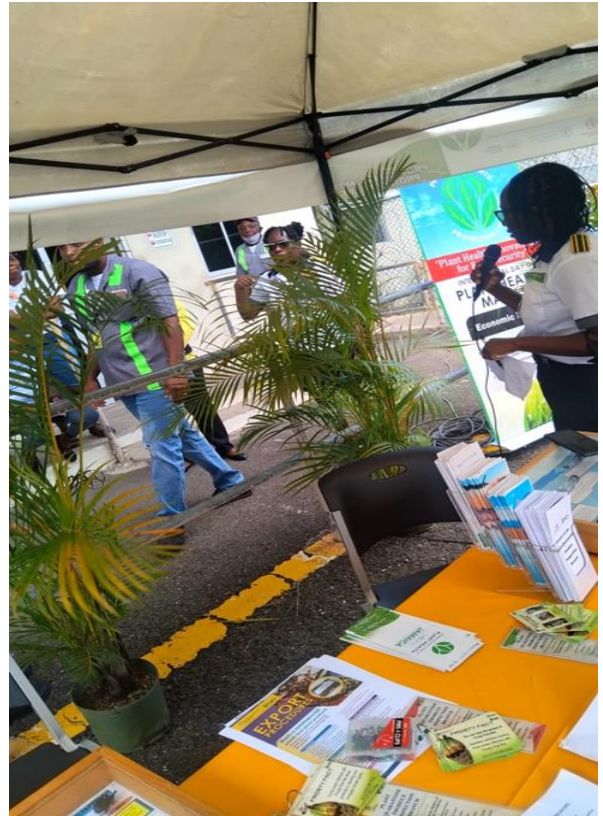
Church Service- May 8, 2022 celebrating International Day of Plant Health

The NPPO Management Team and Staff, Heads of Agricultural Extension, Nature Preservation & AgroInvestment Corporation kicked off the week with Church Service at the Mona Baptist Church. As it was Mothers' Day, all mothers were gifted a health food plant to nurture. Picture shows Head of NPPO gifting the wife of pastor a plant with the help of Export Complex Manager



Safeguarding Ports- May 9, 2022 celebrating International Day of Plant Health





Pictures showing members of staff giving information to Airport Workers

Youth Outreach Activities- May 10, 2022



International Day of Plant Health Forum- May 12, 2022



FAO Representative for Jamaica brought greetings.



Minister Charles, Ministry of Agriculture being interviewed by Radio Jamaica host Dr. Orville Taylor on May 12 at Outside Broadcast for IDPH



CARDI Representatives bringing greetings on May 12 at Jamaica's IDPH



IICA Rep giving greetings at on May 12 at Jamaica's IDPH Celebration



Tertiary Agricultural Institution displaying importance of Plant Health on May 12 at Jamaica's IDPH Ceremony

Research and Development Division displaying importance of Plant Health to Research on May 12 at Jamaica's IDPH Ceremony



Minister Charles, Ministry of Agriculture giving the main address on May 12 at Jamaica's celebration of IDPH



Head of Jamaica's NPPO, Mrs. Sannel Wilson Graham presenting an overview on Jamaica's Plant Health System on May 12 for IDPH



Announcement of the winners of the Poster Competition by Mr. Dalton Hastings, NPPO. Poster Competition saw primary, high school and preparatory school entering.



Drama Piece done by Wolmers Boys' High School on the importance of Plant Health to the Environment







Ministers with responsibility for Agriculture from Jamaica and the Cayman Islands touring the display on International Day of Plant Health 2022 in Jamaica

Please see below links for additional information:

IDPH Ceremony Photos

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IDPH Ceremony Video

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<https://drive.google.com/file/d/13FpoKkXeZJs1pTsqwVsebypF6aLEpEjK/view?usp=sharing>

IDPH Week of Activities Media Highlight

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-JFx723EIw&t=3s>