

## Significant achievements in 2014



### Jamaica

- IICA purchased 30,000 slips of the sweet potato variety Beauregard, which were established in farmer trial plots at four Agro parks (Yallahs, New Forest Duff House, Clarendon, Spring Plain) and at the Bodles experimental station of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, in order to assess this variety's performance under growing conditions in Jamaica. The Institute also built technical capacity in farmers, extension and research services of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in sweet potato growing and post-harvest handling.
- In an effort to increase the capacity for area-based social management among stakeholders in rural territories, especially those involved in family agriculture, IICA successfully managed the project "Working Capital Programme for Rural Women Entrepreneurs in the Caribbean", through which a total of 19 rural women agribusiness enterprises in Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica and St. Lucia benefited from business development training and access to finance through the implementation of revolving loan programmes in each of the four islands.
- The competitiveness of two large dairy farmers in Jamaica was improved and the development of youth in agriculture facilitated through partnership with Earth University in Costa Rica by way of partial sponsorship of the internship program. A Jamaican student in the third year of her program at Earth University worked on-farm with the dairymen trouble shooting production problems while gaining real life experience in putting her knowledge to work.
- For the fourth time, in collaboration with the University of the West Indies, the FAO, USDA, and the ministries of agriculture of Jamaica and Barbados, IICA held a training workshop on plant quarantine in which representatives of 17 Caribbean countries took part.