

Innovation Hub Factsheets 2024

INRAE Guadeloupe, French West Indies

Exploring climate smart innovations in the French West Indies, this innovation hub focuses on two micro farms. AgroEcoDiv is integrating crops and livestock using agroecological practices in a closed loop system, while KaruSmart is experimenting with traditional and innovative techniques to see which methods perform better as issues related to climate change increase.



Work on the KaruSmart micro-farm



Farmer field day – flower strip for pest management

Notable successes and challenges 2023–2024

On-farm trials looked at parasitoid wasps as a tool for pest control. Research suggests wildflower strips and reduced pesticide use can help control the numbers of a damaging species of moth.

Events with local citizens shared knowledge developed on the micro-farms. Local people attended workshops on composting and horticulture, applying techniques learned to their allotments, gardens and other shared spaces. The hope is to train the next generation of farmers in innovations developed to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Innovation hub work was presented at a seminar on Caribbean farming in the event of climate change, organised by the Chamber of Agriculture. It was attended by farmers representatives, extension agents, scientists, funders and policy makers.

Summary

Sharing the results of the micro-farm model is sparking interest because of its versatility and the potential in other overseas island contexts. This is something that is ripe for exploration and exploitation over the coming months.