



## JPFA signs MOU with CFB

The official signing of a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU), between the Corporate Finance Broker Unit (CFB)/Jamaica Trade & Invest (JTI) and six partners; Jamaica Pig Farmers Association (JPFA); National Housing Trust (NHT); University of Technology (UTECH); MoneyMasters Ltd.; National Union of Cooperatives Societies (NUCS); and NationGrowth Micro-Finance Ltd took place at the JTI Head Office on Wednesday, May 7, 2008. The MOU represents the sealing of a long-term relationship and agreement between PSDP/JTI and the beneficiaries, that aims to increase efficiency, competitiveness and sustainability of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSME) in Jamaica.

The JPFA was represented by Delroy Manyá, Immediate Past President, who signed on behalf of members. According to Mr. Manyá, "the signing will further strengthen the strategic alliance, between JTI/ the Corporate Finance Broker Unit and organizations like the JPFA, so that members can benefit from increased options for financing as well as, assistance with documentation and business plans."

Mrs. Deanna McFarlane, Manager, Corporate Finance Broker Unit (CFB), said "the purpose of the signing was to formalize the working relationship between CFB/JTI and its MOU partners. This will see the partners encouraging their clients to utilize the services of the CFB, while the CFB will in turn provide relevant technical and financial assistance to the clients of referred MOU partners." So in the case of the JPFA, pig farmers will have access to CFB services such as, financial planning, accounting assistance, identification of sources of finance and or other technical assistance, as well as training workshops for business enterprises.

Prior to this, the Corporate Finance Broker Unit conducted five financial



Delaine Morgan, PSDP Manager observes, as Delroy Manyá signs on behalf of the JPFA.

based workshops titled "Managing Your Pig Farm" for one hundred and fifty two (152) members of the Jamaica Pig Farmers Association in St. Mary, Portland, St. Catherine and Mandeville. They also had two work-shops for the National Union of Cooperative Societies in Business Plan Writing and Basic Accounting and Record Keeping.

The CFB will seek accreditation from the University of Technology/ Technology Innovative Centre (UTECH/TIC) of its workshop material. Additionally, it is hoped that in the near future, MSME owners/managers who participate in workshops certified by the Corporate Finance Broker Unit, will be able to matriculate for courses offered by the UTECH/TIC. The National Housing Trust clients; specifically self-employed beneficiaries will be able to take advantage of several upcoming workshops where they will be trained to better manage their businesses and remain profitable to meet the monthly NHT mortgage payments.

The Corporate Finance Broker Unit is one of the 12 components of the European Union/Government of Jamaica, Private Sector Development Programme (PSDP) which is geared towards improving Jamaica's overall competitiveness with particular emphasis on Micro, Small and Medium sized Enterprises (MSME). ■

## 42 Pig Farmers get F1 Gilts

Improving the quality of Jamaican pork is the number one priority of the JPFA. It is also a critical component of the PSDP funded Consortia Development Programme, through which several pig farmers have been trained and exposed to new technologies and modern approaches to pig farming.

The JPFA has partnered with Newport Genetics Ltd. (Nugen), a member of the Caribbean Broilers Group, specializing in Artificial Insemination (AI) to improve the genetic stock and ultimately the quality of our local pork. Under the programme Nugen has provided 42 farmers with F1 Gilts from the improved Canadian stock of a Landrace x Large White. The F1 Gilts will be bred to Duroc boars, using artificial insemination. The farmers received two F1 Gilts free and purchased one as their investment.

These 42 "demonstration farms" were selected across the island, based on farmers who demonstrated good pig husbandry practices and had participated in the series of training sessions in pig husbandry, care of the breeding herd, and pig diseases and health. The farmers will liaise with Nugen Ltd. for semen and further on-farm training in artificial insemination.

Through this process the local pig stock will be improved over time, and be better able to satisfy local demand, as well as compete regionally and internationally. It will also ensure that small and medium sized enterprises within the Pig/Pork Industry can be economically viable and sustainable in the long run. ■



## SPOTLIGHT on TRAINING

### Farmer to Farmer Programme Sharpens skills in "Cuts and Food Safety"



Butchery and Food Safety were the focus of a two-week training assignment May 17 to 31, aimed at equipping Jamaica's pig farmers with skills in these areas. Under the Farmer to Farmer Programme funded by USAID, two experts in Butchery and Food Safety conducted training sessions at supermarkets and agricultural institutions across the island.



Pig Farmers, butchers and meat processors also benefited from the training, as Drs Aubrey Mendonca and Sandol Johnson, volunteers under the Farmer to Farmer programme, shared their technical expertise and skills in sessions on updated butchery practices, meat cuts, food hygiene and sanitation. They visited farms and meat processing plants in St. Elizabeth, Westmoreland, Mandeville, St. Ann, and St. Catherine, to observe their procedures and update their staff in terms of techniques.



## Potentially Hazardous /Harmful Foods

### PHF are usually:

- High in protein or carbohydrate content; efc
- Low in acidity (pH above 4.6);
- High in moisture content (Aw above 0.85).

### Examples of PHF:

- Foods of animal origin;
- Foods of plant origin that are heat treated or consist of raw seed sprouts;
- Garlic and oil mixtures.

The workshops covered effective sanitizing, personal hygiene and practice, pest control . Members also looked at the HACCP System.

## HACCP

The Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points system is a scientifically based method to prevent hazards from harming people. HACCP was developed in the USA by NASA as the preferred method for controlling foodborne illnesses in the space programme and later implemented in the US food industry.

### Seven Principles of HACCP System

**Principle 1.** Conduct the hazard analysis.

**Principle 2.** Identify the critical control points in the process.

**Principle 3.** Establish critical limits for each critical control point.

**Principle 4.** Establish monitoring plan for critical limits.

**Principle 5.** Establish a corrective action when critical limits have been exceeded at a critical control point.

**Principle 6.** Establish record-keeping procedures to document all activities and results.

**Principle 7.** Establish procedures to verify that the HACCP system is working correctly, is being implemented properly and periodically reassessed.

Actions to ensure microbial safety and quality sources of microbial contamination in pork

### Safe handling of pork:

- at the slaughter facility during cutting and packaging
- during storage & transport
- at retail outlets

### Actions to ensure safety and quality of raw pork

- Start on the farm
- Continue through all the stages of handling until meat reaches the consumer
- Good manufacturing practices (GMP):
- proper cleaning and sanitation
- worker hygiene
- proper temperature control
- Challenge to slaughter facility

## Waste Management

The Jamaica Pig Farmers Association (JPFA) will again host an "expert" under the Farmer to Farmer Programme, for a two week training assignment July 13 -26,



Mr. Mark Rice, Pig Waste Management Specialist met with representatives of the Caribbean Broilers Group/Nugen Ltd., the Ministry of Agriculture and the Scientific Research Council (SRC), in addition to doing two seminars in Aqualta Vale, St. Mary and Mandeville in the first week. He will continue visiting farms and processing facilities in the West on Monday, July 21; on and Tuesday, July 22 he will conduct a workshop on "Pig Waste Management" in Sav La Mar, On Wednesday July 23<sup>rd</sup>, he will visit with RADA St. Thomas and small pig farmers in St. Thomas.office, Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Rice will end with a ending with a seminar in St. Catherine at the Farmers Training Centre on Thursday, July 24.

The Farmer to Farmer programme is an international technical assistance programme started in 2003. Financed by USAID in Washington, it facilitates technical assistance and the transfer of technologies in agriculture to developing countries, using volunteer experts from the USA. The programme, with support from IICA, has so far brought 45 volunteer experts to Jamaica to assist such areas/groups as co-operatives, associations and training institutions.



## PROMOTING PORK - JPFA gets involved

### RJR 94 Family Affair

On Sunday, June 15, the JPFA joined RJR 94 for a "Family Affair" at the Ranny Williams Entertainment Centre. The JPFA booth provided information on the Association, through our "PigTales" newsletter, as well as recipes, and had sessions of "Pork Tasting" which were well received by over 400 patrons.



### JPFA – a sponsor of Jack Daniel Grill Off

The following Sunday, June 22, it was time for the Jack Daniel Grill Off, which was held at the American School on Olivier Road in Kingston. The JPFA donated 100 lbs of pork ribs, as a sponsor of the competition. The JPFA's Booth distributed flyers, newsletters and recipes at the event.



### RADA St.Thomas Expo

JPFA also participated in an "Open Day" put on by the RADA St. Thomas office. The booth was manned by two farmers from the parish, viz. Miss Lelieth McKenzie and Mr. Rockwell Gordon and Ms. Kimone Douglas from the Secretariat. They provided practical advice to farmers on pig rearing and the benefits of joining the JPFA. Pork tasting was also a feature of the display.

### JPFA Regional Meetings - discuss issues

The JPFA had a successful series of Regional Meetings recently. The first, held at the St. Mary Banana Estate, on April 17, 2008, catered to farmers in Portland, St. Mary and St. Ann.. The second was held on Thursday, April 24, 2008, at the Farmers Training Centre, Twickenham Park, St. Catherine, and catered to farmers from St. Thomas, St. Andrew, St. Catherine, Clarendon and Manchester. These were chaired by President, Annabel Williams, while the final Regional meeting held at Knockalva Agricultural School in Hanover was chaired by Past President, Delroy Manya. .



Regional meeting, Knockalva, Hanover.

The JPFA used the opportunity to create parish and regional committees, that will mobilize and foster greater support and participation in the Association's activities. In addition, the JPFA continued its effort to promote pig farming as a viable business opportunity, to attract new farmers into the association.

An important aspect of the meetings was an update on the progress of project funded activities under the Private Sector Development Programme (PSDP). Members also heard about initiatives to strengthen the partnership between producers and processors, as well as to address the feed price situation. The 'Farmer to Farmer' programme and JPFA's drive to continue to improve the quality of pork were also discussed.

Over 200 pig farmers attended these meetings to discuss issues important to the business of pig farming including the current wave of pig feed increases and ways of efficiently using the feed. Presentations were also made by the JPFA executive members who extolled the benefits of membership, spoke about the pork promotion programme

and the current PSDP activities. The JPFA partners viz. Hi Pro Feeds, Newport Mills (Nutramix), Nugent and Jamaica Livestock Association participated with presentations and addressed queries.

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### PSDP showcases projects

On June 30, the JPFA participated in an Expo organized by the PSDP to showcase their projects and recognize the achievements of its beneficiaries. JPFA again donated pork and collaborated with the PSDP to facilitate the success of the event.

### CFB/PSDP Business Development Seminars

The Corporate Finance Broker Unit of the PSDP in association with the JPFA, completed a series of seminars on "Managing the Pig Business" in April. The sessions were led by Dr. Karl Reid, Mr. Laurence Adamson and Mr. Bob Kerr, in St. Catherine on March 18; in Manchester on March 27<sup>th</sup>; in St. Catherine on April 1<sup>st</sup>; in St. Thomas on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Portland on April 22<sup>nd</sup> in Hanover on May 8.



## NEWS... AND... UPCOMING EVENTS

### Update on Industry Meeting/Issues and Alternative Feeds

Follow-up meetings have been held with the Ministry of Agriculture and the major industry players, in a continuing effort to address the rising feed prices and explore viable alternatives for producing feeds using local ingredients...

### Big Plans for Denbigh 2008

The JPFA will participate in Denbigh again this year, but this time, working with two of our partners. Hi Pro Feeds, Newport Mills (Nutramix) and IICA have invited us to be a part of their booth, and plans are in high gear to put on a good show. On Sunday August 2, at the IICA booth, pork cuts will be on display. A chef will be demonstrating the cooking of pork and will be offering samples for tasting. So come and participate, or visit our booth at Denbigh, and bring a friend.

### 'Jus Pork' Competition

JPFA is working with the JCDC to develop a "Jus Pork" Competition at We will solicit feedback on this at Denbigh, in August. The competition will be open to all, so let us know what you think.

### Pig Farmer of the Year?

Are you a member in good standing?  
Have you been participating in the training opportunities offered by the JPFA?  
Have you invested in upgrading of your pig farm, new technologies, etc.?  
Then you qualify to enter the competition for 'Pig Farmer of the Year'.  
The process is simple...  
Complete the form, submit....

### JCDC Culinary Retro Expo

JPFA will also be participating in the JCDC's Culinary Arts Expo for **Hotels & Restaurants** at the Jamaica Pegasus on August 3 & 4

## PORK COOK BOOK

REMEMBER ...  
we are compiling a Pork Cookbook to show the many ways we can cook pork. Do you have a special pork recipe? Share it with us. Send one in... and tell your friends... Send as many as you have...Who knows, you may just win a prize!



## Calling All Farmers ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

June is Membership Month and July is our Anniversary Month, so the JPFA will have a Membership Special in June/July.

Are You a JPFA member?  
Join the JPFA now and save 50% on your membership fee....

### FEEDBACK - CONTINUE TO KEEP THE FEEDBACK COMING !

JPFA members...this is your newsletter. So let us know what you would like to see, or hear about in it.. Send comments to : [info@agribusjamaica](mailto:info@agribusjamaica). Or call: JPFA Secretariat

**977-0952 or 970-1940.**