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NATIONAL AGRICULTURE & TRADE SHOW 2011

April 29th, 30th & May 1st

Official Programme of Events

Theme
**"Agriculture: Securing the Future
for a Better Belize"**

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE AND TRADE SHOW 2011

Highlights of the Entertainment on the Love FM Main Stage

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday April 30th

- 6:00 a.m.....Gates open – Entrance Fee – Adult \$5.00 Children \$2.00
- 8:00 a.m.....Live Broadcasts begin on all major radio stations
- 10:00 a.m.....Livestock Judging (Cattle)
- 10:00 a.m.....Award Ceremony (Main Stage)
- 10:00 a.m.....1st Stage of Horse Show (Rodeo Arena) Adults \$2.00 Kids \$1.00
- 10.30 a.m.....Judging of Booths
- 11:00 a.m.....Coconut Husking Competition and Other competitions (main Stage)
- 12:00 noon..... MJ's Vibrations Band (Main Stage)
- 1:00 p.m.....2nd Stage of Horse Show (Rodeo Arena) Adults \$2.00 Kids \$1.00
- 2:00 P.M.....Ms. Agriculture Competition (Main Stage)
- 2:00 p.m.....Flower Show Judging (Flower Palace)
- 2:00 p.m.....Arrival of Agriculture and Trade Show River Challenge
Canoe teams will come ashore at the Canoe Landing.
- 4:00 p.m.....Traveller's Live Cocktail Mixing (Main Stage)
Watermelon Eating Contest
Coconut Husking Competition Plus Other Competitions
- 4:30 P.M..... MJ's Vibration Band (Main Stage)
- 5:00 p.m.....Quad Motorcycle Exhibits
- 5:30 p.m.....Live Entertainment Featuring McKoy, Consigo & positive Vibes, MJ's Vibrations (Main Stage)

Sunday May 1st

- 6:00 a.m.....Gates open – Entrance Fee – Adult \$5.00 Children \$2.00
- 10.00 a.m.....Livestock Judging (Horse)
- 10:00 a.m.....Tropigas-Love FM Love TV Cook off Competition (Main Stage)
- 11:00 a.m..... MJ's vibration Band (Main Stage)
- 12:00 noon..... Dog Show, (Livestock Judging Arena)
- 1:00 p.m..... Rodeo (Rodeo Arena)
Traveller's Cocktail Display (Main Stage)
- 2:00 p.m.....Chico Ramos (Main Stage)
- 2:30 p.m.....Supa G (Love FM Main Stage)
- 3:00 p.m.....Agricultural Competition/Giveaways (Main Stage)
- 3:30 p.m.....Traveller's Cocktail Display (Love FM Main Stage)
- 4:00 p.m..... MJ's Vibrations Band (Main Stage)
- 5:00 p.m.....Supa G (Main Stage)
- 6:00 p.m.....Show Closes – **See you Next Year!! !**

Saturday April 30th

- 10:00 Sashing of Farmers of The Year
- 10:30 MJ's Vibrations and agriculture competitions
- 11:00 Coconut Husking Competition and other =Competitions
- 11:30 Travellers Live Cocktail Mixing Display
- 2:00 Miss Agric Competition
- 4:00 Travellers Live Cocktail Mixing
Watermelon Eating Contest
Coconut Husking Competition plus other competitions
Estereo Amor's Reggaton Competition
- 5:30 Live Entertainment featuring McKoy, Consigo & Positive Vibes, MJ's Vibrations etc.

Sunday May 1st

- 10:00- Tropigas-Love FM Cooking Competition
- Live Entertainment from Abraxas from Orange Walk and MJ's Vibrations
- 1:00 Travellers Cocktail Display
- 2:00 Chico Ramos
- 2:30 Supa G
- 3:00 Agricultural Competitions
- 3:30 Travellers Cocktail Display
- 4:00 MJ's Vibrations
- 5:00 Supa G

"Agriculture: Securing the Future for a Better Belize"

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Farmers of the Year 2011

Fernando Orellana – Junior Farmer

Fernando Orellana is a 19 year old farmer from Bomba village in the Belize district. His twenty-acre farm, called “El Humilde Rancho” is semi-mechanized and produces hot peppers, sweet peppers, onions, RK beans among other vegetables. The farm has 8 dairy animals and 18 heads of beef cattle. Fernando is a very hard working youth who is grateful to his family for his upbringing in teaching him to till the soil and inculcating a business approach to agriculture. His aim is always to produce the best products and reduce costs as much as possible. Although Fernando only completed Sixth Standard, he has relentlessly continued to enhance his agricultural background for which he values the training in good agricultural practices he has received and the invaluable technical assistance provided by the Extension service.



Mr. Fernando Orellana
Junior Farmer of the Year 2011

Mr. Orellana’s greatest asset is his perseverance which demonstrates his strength as a farmer and as a person. He has had many challenges in the past, especially in the marketing of his produce. Nevertheless, these experiences taught him to seek better ways to circumvent the problems. At present Fernando is building a drying and storage unit for onions, and his plans are to store the onions and capitalize when the market demand is high. He has also expanded his enterprise to include corn production under irrigation as he is fully cognizant of the variability and unpredictability the climate. He has established protein banks and sugarcane to provide better nutrition for his cattle, sheep and pigs. He has introduced Electric fencing for better control of his livestock and to reduce cost. Equally important are diversification and good genetics which have prompted him to continue improving his pig and sheep production through the acquisition of a Duroc sow and a Dorper ram.

Mr. Orellana seeks to achieve a fully integrated farm to ensure resiliency in order to better face challenging times due to market forces, rising cost of fuel and inputs, and climate change. Fernando must be congratulated for being an exemplary youth fully dedicated to agriculture.

Mrs. Maria Aracelli Vasquez – Woman Farmer

Mrs. Maria Vasquez is a progressive and innovative farmer of Rockstone Pond Village in the Belize district. At her 10 acre mixed farm she cultivates cabbage, tomatoes, sweet pepper, sweet potatoes and RK beans. Her 20 years experience in and knowledge of crop production is evident and is reflected in the



Mrs. Aracelli Vasquez
Female Farmer of the Year 2011

quantity and quality of the crops she produces. Cognizant of the importance of the environment, she practices integrated pest management and only uses pesticides when absolutely necessary. Her Fields are kept free of weeds. Also In an effort to minimize the use of pesticides, she recently started using a protective covered structure for sweet pepper production. As a business minded person, Mrs. Vasquez keeps good records of farm income expenditure.

To assist with diversification of her farm, she recently acquired pigs for fattening and local chickens for the production of meat and eggs. In most cases she uses crop residues to feed her pigs thus cutting down production costs.

As an innovator and an entrepreneur, Mrs. Vasquez also believes in value adding and produces plum jelly and jam, Noni wine, Habanero sauce, tomato pickle, and sorrel jam for the local market. She also makes hand-carrying bags, and other craft for sale.

Mrs. Maria Vasquez, without a doubt, is a model in agriculture and entrepreneurship.

Mr. Edgar Tzib –Senior Farmer

Mr. Edgar Tzib is a progressive farmer of San Antonio Village in the Cayo District. The main crops he cultivates include Irish potatoes, tomatoes, cabbage, carrots, and peanuts. He also has smaller areas of watermelon, Jicama, onions and lettuce. He is currently establishing a small area for organic production. His 100-acre diversified farm also includes livestock such as cattle, sheep and more recently added fish and pigs. His Tilapia production has produced good results and he has built another pond to expand his operation.



Mr. Edgar Tzib
Senior Farmer of the Year 2011

Mr. Tzib is innovative and quickly adopts new technologies as can be seen in the planting system he uses for lettuce, where he interplants with peanuts to provide nitrogen as well as to maintain the humidity of the soil. He has also adopted the silvi-pastoral system and improved pastures for his cattle, in addition to establishing forage bank. Mr. Tzib is well on his way to establishing an integrated farm, thereby improving his income generating capacity and farm efficiency.

Mr. Tzib shows much progress as a farmer in terms of new crops, new acquisitions and new ideas to help in his work. He was recently successful in his potato crop and has reinvested in his farm by purchasing and establishing an irrigation system for his vegetables and watermelon. A motorized chopper was also purchased to help with shredding forage for his livestock operation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE DISTRICT NOMINEES AND SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL FARMERS FOR “Securing the Future for a Better Belize”.

Judges for Farmers of the year 2011

Team Leader Mr. Maximiliano Ortega - Specialist in Innovation & Technology (IICA)
Mr. Justaquico Tush – Livestock Officer (MAF)
Mr. Roger Cal.....Livestock Officer (B.L.P.A)