



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO  
**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND & FISHERIES**  
**CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT**

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## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Agriculture Minister: Agro- Incentive Programme can make a significant impact on Country's Food Production**

**November 11, 2020:-** In delivering the Opening Remarks earlier today at the distribution of Agro- Incentive Grants at the Ministry's Head Office in Chaguanas. Agriculture Minister, Clarence Rambharat said, the incentive programme is something which can make a significant impact on the way in which we manage food production the country and the way farmers' are incentivized. He added, it is the Ministry's intention to always award persons who are performers, those who are producers and in the same token, we must incentivize and support these individuals.

The Minister encouraged farmers to make use of the incentive programme currently offered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, so as to improve their overall efficiency, specifically when it comes to infrastructure and general farm management. These include: farm organization, farm security and labour saving equipment, storage, grading and sorting.

Minister Rambharat said that the Agro-Incentive Grant will be expanded in the future to include a wider range of areas it currently covers, with funding being utilized from the \$500m stimulus package given to Agriculture. Of course, all of this will be subjected to the Cabinet's approval, he said.

In closing, the Honourable Minister congratulated the farmers on their achievement and encouraged them to use the funding for its intended purpose, as there is a system in place by the Ministry for monitoring and evaluating the disbursements.

At today's event, cheques were presented to David Ablack (Hydroponics), Felix Clarke (Crop Production), Saleem Khan (Hydroponics), Karsen Mangaroo (Livestock Production), Allan Neptune (Crop Production-Hydroponics) and Harryram Sookdeen (Vegetable Production- Hydroponics).

Also in attendance was the Permanent Secretary (Ag.) in the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, Mrs Ramdai Sookdeo.

END

### **Photo Captions**

*AIG 1:- Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, Senator the Honourable Clarence Rambharat (3rd from left), is flanked by staff and recipients of the Agro-Incentive Grant, at his Ministry's Head Office in Chaguanas on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2020, following a brief distribution ceremony. Also in the image is the Permanent Secretary (Ag.) in the Ministry, Ms. Ramdai Sookdeo (3<sup>d</sup> from right).*

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