ABSTRACT

The purpose of this project was to conduct a preliminary investigation into assessing Praedial Larceny in Trinidad and Tobago, specifically focusing on the Arima and Environ area. This was done by formulating and executing a questionnaire using the face to face contact approach. The study was conducted during the period January 23rd to February 23rd, 2010. The analysis was done using the statistical programme SPSS.

There were mainly male farmers farming in this area with little educational background. Most farmers were lease holders cultivating more than five (5) acres of land. Their operations were mainly Open Field where three quarters of the population used dogs and watchmen as their major security measures. These security measures were somewhat effective as most farmers were victims of Praedial Larceny more than five times during their farming lifetime. Theft of vegetables, damage to crops and stolen pumps are the major offences committed. Farmers are interested in forming a Community Praedial Larceny Squad to deal with Praedial Larceny in the Area.

Praedial Larceny in Trinidad and Tobago is a major problem affecting farmers and the population. It is a major deterrent to food production and food security. The latter result would be increasing food prices and increasing inflation rates.

Key Words:
- Praedial Larceny
- Security measures
- Inflation
- Food prices