

ABSTRACT

The research project: The Farmers Perception of the Economic Viability of the Agricultural Grow Box is intended to answer the question of feasibility and viability with respect to the projections suggested by the Trinidad and Tobago Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources.

The uses of agricultural grow box systems in Trinidad and Tobago has varied degrees of success and profitability however there has not been any proper verification of this that should have been done by The Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources.

The study involved conducting interviews together with issuing questionnaires to the farmers as well as those non-farmers who utilize the Grow Box system. There was an attempt to locate and interview twelve farmers' who practice this type of farming, however only nine were willing to cooperate and divulge data and information.

The results indicate that The Agricultural Grow Box system proves to be a very efficient and cost effective measure in the quality production of crops and vegetables. It was found that the practice of the agricultural grow box system type of farming is economically viable. The quality and quantity of crops is high and all the farmers' make a profit.

Highlights of the study include various costing figures and revenue figures with respect to the setting up and establishing of the systems and sales of crops. The average cost of establishing an agricultural grow box system is TT \$752.00 and revenues can be in excess of TT \$3000.00

The implications include the scarce amount of data and information gathered. The lack of information means that conclusions made are subject to corrections since it is not a complete study of a majority number of framers and non-farmers who practice the method of agriculture.

This study is a preliminary report since there were only nine farmers that were located and interviewed. The framework of farmers was built up as time progressed but it was very difficult to obtain the location and get in contact with other existing farmers.