

## ABSTRACT

This thesis presents a report on a study of the productivity of resources in agriculture in Tobago, which was done to investigate the problem of the determination of a pattern of resource use, which would make more productive use of resources and increase output, in the agricultural sector of Tobago. Data for the study were obtained by a survey carried out as part of the study. Two samples were taken, one of 37 small farms (3-99 acres), and the other of 16 large farms (100 acres and over). The data showed that the characteristics of the large and small farms differed in several respects. The data were also used to derive Cobb-Douglas production functions for the crop enterprises, the livestock enterprises, and for the farms as single production units. From these production functions, estimates of the marginal value product of the different resource input were determined. The results of this analysis showed that several resource inputs on the large and small farms had high productivities and several had low productivities. Only for the labour inputs however, were there significant differences between the productivity on the large farms and the small farms. There were several conclusions from the study. They included the need for an improvement in the labour situation in the agricultural sector in Tobago especially with regards to its scarcity, and the bias against agriculture by the youth; the need for greater attention to livestock enterprises in Tobago; the need for greater use on the farms of improved crop services like fertiliser, insecticides and herbicides; and the need to continue this study and look into other aspects of the problem, for which this study only attempted an initial investigation.