

## ABSTRACT

This study attempts to find out the extent to which students in the Primary and Secondary schools of North Eastern Trinidad are favourably disposed towards careers in agriculture.

The study also seeks to find out whether the agricultural programmes in the school systems influence the students favourably or not.

The fact that students strongly support agricultural science in the curricula of all Primary and Secondary schools indicate the importance that they attach to agriculture and agricultural education. The research, however, indicates that there is little involvement of students in agriculture at home and the schools' agricultural science programmes are very weak.

Where students are exposed to agriculture at school and at home, there is a tendency for them to be more favourably inclined towards agricultural activities and towards agriculture as a career.

Students knowledge about agricultural careers is limited and those interested in agricultural careers look forward chiefly to the positions of agricultural science teacher and agricultural officer. There is little interest evinced in practical farming.

From the students' perception, agriculture ranks third in importance in the country. They do not perceive farmers as being accorded the same status and respect as teachers and civil servants in the society, neither do they perceive employment in farming to be as remunerative as in the teaching service and in the civil service.

Students, therefore, recognise the importance of and the need for agriculture in their lives, but they are not really favourably

inclined or motivated towards careers in agriculture that involve practical farming.

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