
*College of
Micronesia-FSM*



*Cooperative
Research and
Extension (CRE)
A Component of*



*College of
Micronesia Land
Grant Program
Funded by:*



United States Department of Agriculture
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

USDA Celebrates 150th Year of Service: (reprint with permission)

Release No. 0154.12

Contact USDA Office of communications 202-720-4623

Agriculture Secretary Vilsack celebrates USDA's 150th Year of Service, Highlights ways the 'Every Day, Every Way' Department works for American People

WASHINGTON, May 15, 2012 Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today marked the 150th anniversary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and highlighted the positive impact that USDA has on the life of Americans each day.

"For 150 years, USDA has supported our nation's economic prosperity and touched the lives of generations of Americans," said Vilsack. "I'm proud of the USDA employees who carry out President Lincoln's legacy throughout the country and around the world, making USDA a truly 'Every Day, Every Way' department. Whether improving domestic and international access to food, promoting nutrition and safety of our food supply, conserving our natural resources, advancing agricultural exports, or developing the rural economy, USDA helps Americans to lead better lives."

President Lincoln created USDA in 1862 and in his last address before Congress, called it the "People's Department." President Lincoln established USDA because he understood the importance of agriculture to America's success and under the Obama Administration USDA has focused on advancing Lincoln's legacy. The Department has delivered record amounts of loan assistance; enrolled a record number of acres in conservation programs; provided food assistance to 1 in 4 Americans and helped to upgrade infrastructure, such as electric and broadband Internet service, for millions of people.

Throughout 2012, USDA will continue to recognize important events such as President Lincoln's signing of the Act to establish the Department of Agriculture on May, 15, 1862 and the July 2, 1862 signing of the Morrill Act to establish public land grant universities. Learn more about President Lincoln's agricultural legacy [here](#).

USDA works to support the tremendous growth and continued successes of American agriculture at home and abroad, drive economic growth, conduct groundbreaking research, conserve natural resources, promote healthy families and build stronger communities and a stronger nation. The Department will remain focused on rebuilding and revitalizing the nation's future

(continued on Page2)

while bolstering innovation and supporting economic growth for millions of American families. In the years to come, USDA will continue to address the changing needs of agriculture and rural America, and will continue to help provide a safe, ample food supply for our nation and the world.

For more information on the 150th anniversary celebration, please visit www.usda.gov/usda150. Additional information on USDA's work to strengthen the American economy can be found at www.usda.gov/results.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

US Department of Agriculture is represented in the Federated States of Micronesia by:

- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- USDA Rural Development Office
- USDA Forest Service
- And College of Micronesia-Land Grant Program

CHUUK CRE:

Chuuk CRE further strengthens Collaboration With Community

The Chuuk Cooperative Research and Extension (CRE) services worked with various members of Chuuk State Department of Health's, Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Multidisciplinary Committee recently



formed in response to Governor Elimo's "state of health emergency" declaration in September 2011. Membership on this committee is representative of various health and environmental entities of both governmental and non-governmental agencies, private sectors and civil societies. Chuuk CRE is a lead agency responsible to address food security component of Chuuk State's strategic health plan. CRE will strengthen its collaborative efforts in promoting and

implementing programs in global food security and hunger, childhood obesity, climate change and community resource and development. The effectiveness of Chuuk CRE program delivery lies on its adherence and advocacy of integrated and holistic approach in communities on Weno and other islands within the Truk Lagoon. In this connection, Chuuk CRE continues to link with state, national and regional activities with opportunities to enhance the skills, knowledge and delivery of community services. Chuuk CRE's Coordinator, Ms Elfriede D Suda participated in the 2nd FSM Chronic Diseases Conference held in Yap on February 13-17 with its theme "Connecting the Missing Link to Fight NCDs." A 15 minute presentation was delivered on behalf of the College and Chuuk State's NCD Program, Division of Public Health at the Department of Health Services.



Yap CRE: Youths Construct Stone-Pathways: Martin Ruwniyol

Community based projects performed by youths directly impact them as they volunteer to perform a service benefitting their village. Stone path improvement or construction is part of the 4H and Youth Development program encouraging youths to perform community beautification activities.

Volunteerism and community beautification projects throughout Yap, are core programs of 4H and Youth

Agent facilitated path through snacks, beverages, to eat) and direct completed laying

Volunteering for convenient times participate like is to complete the usually secondary; communities.

Community based programming are Unemployed from juvenile migrating to the



Development. In Nimar village the 4H the improvement of the village stone encouragement, support activities like site lunches (youths may not go home rebuilding activities. They have more than 1,000 feet of stone paths.

community projects is scheduled on when majority of students can weekends and holidays. Project goal project. Scheduling and pay are they know their toil will benefit their

projects are successful because extended to outlaying sites. youths become occupied, deviating delinquency, idleness, drug abuse and district business center.

Kosrae CRE:

INTEGRATED SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION WORKSHOPS



Dr. Virendra M. Verma, Project Coordinator organized two one-week workshops for participants for Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (WSARE) project on on-farm implementation and demonstration of integrated sustainable agriculture and livestock production systems for

small-scale farmers. Eighty-one participants including agriculture college students, agriculture high school students, farmers and women attended the workshops. Extensive PowerPoint presentations and hands-on activities were organized to make participants acquainted with tissue culture multiplication, acclimatization, banana cultivation, soft taro cultivation, sweet potato cultivation, diseases and nutrient deficiency symptoms and control, insect and pest control, fertilizer and compost application, harvesting, storing and composting. Seven multi-colored cultivation guides on banana, soft taro, sweet potato, eggplant, papaya, composting and swine diet were prepared and distributed to participants.

Pohnpei CRE:

During the month of February 2012, the CES PNI EFNEP staff and the JICA Senior Volunteer, Marine Food Processor Specialist was overwhelmed with community visits and cooking demonstrations.



ECE parents from Awak observing...



Mr. Hamada, demonstrating the use of elec. Blender



Mrs. Hagilmai demonstrating to Madol. ECE parents...participants become trainer and having fun



Pohnlamwahu- even the kids enjoy a day out as parents...cheering, learning new recipes for next meal





Sekere ECE- who says you can only learn in a well-to-do kitchen...EFNEP is flexible in learning environment.



Cooking demonstration at Yap Fishing Authority(YFA... and yamyam! even in Yap. If you are interested, we are here to teach and demonstrate.



Cooking demonstration at YFA-Cooking Sushi-rice and Namban...enjoy because there is plenty to go around.

During the month, CES PNI, including JICA volunteer conducted 16 cooking demonstrations in different locations, including PNI and Yap. About 485 participants were in attendance not including children.

Pig council Initiated in Pohnpei:

Culturally, pigs are very important on Pohnpei and the FSM. Raising very large pigs commands respect so nearly every family has a pig pen.

The newly established Piggery Advisory Council held a facilitated strategic planning session on Thursday, March 1, 2012. Many technical and regulatory agencies were present, including COM-FSM CRE, CES, USDA-NRCS, OEA-Agriculture, EPA, and CSP. The Charge' d'Affairs, Lori Dando from the U.S. Embassy Kolonia, and Senator Aurelio Joab from the Pohnpei State Legislature also participated. To show support from the health sector, the Honorable Dr. Vita Skilling, Secretary of the FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs, gave the Opening Remarks. She commended the Council for the work being



done and challenged the group to continue based on the risk to public health posed by exposure to improperly managed pig waste. Jimmy Hicks, Director of Institutional Research and Planning COM-FSM, facilitated the session. He led the group of nearly 30 participants through several exercises including SWOT, Visioning, and Developing Strategic Objectives. Key partners reaffirming their commitment to helping farmers raise pigs in an environmentally sustainable manner without risk to public health.

Contacts: State & National Cooperative Research and Extension Services

<p>Kosrae: Ms. Kenye Killin, Coordinator P.O. Box 37, Tofol Kosrae, FM 96944 Tel: 691-370-3191 Fax: 691-370-3193 Email: killin@comfsm.fm Researcher: Dr. Virendra Mohan Verma, PhD. Email: ymv_vmv@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Pohnpei: Mr. Engly Ioanis, Coordinator P.O. Box 1866, Kolonia Pohnpei, FM 96941 Tel: 691-320-5731 Fax: 691-3230-3133 Email: englyioanis@comfsm.fm Research: Vacant</p>
<p>Chuuk: Ms. Elfriede D. Suda, Coordinator P.O. Box 879, Weno Chuuk, FM 96942 Tel: 691-330-2913 Fax: 691-330-2740 (Chuuk Campus) Email: elfriedesuda@yahoo.com Researcher: Dr. Lolita Ragus, PhD. Email: lragus748@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Yap: Stanislaus Fal'mngar, Coordinator P.O. Box 399, Colonia Yap, FM 96943 Tel: 691-350-4319 Fax: 691-350-2325 Email: Stanfal@comfsm.fm Researcher: Dr. Murukesan V.K., PhD Email: vazhaveli@hotmail.com</p>
<p>National: W. James Currie, VP-CRE, COM-FSM National Campus, P.O. Box 159, Kolonia, Pohnpei, 96941 Tel: 691-320-8181, Fax: 691-320-2972, email: jimc@comfsm.fm Website: http://www.comfsm.fm/vpcrc</p>	