

Trinidad and Tobago

WNV meeting
October 24 – 27, 2005
Guadeloupe

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Location

- End of Caribbean islands archipelago
- between the Caribbean sea and North Atlantic Ocean
- Trinidad -7 miles North East of Venezuela
- Tobago – 21 miles NE of Trinidad

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Climate of T&T

- Tropical
- Rainy season (June to December)
- Av. Max temperatures (daytime)
 - Trinidad – 30 - 35 degrees celsius
 - Tobago – cooler: constant NE Trade Winds



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Climate of T&T

- Annual Rainfall approx. 40 in (200 cm)
- Lies just south of the hurricane belt
- Unlike many other islands, Trinidad and Tobago rarely suffers from tropical storms.

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Landscape

- Mostly plains with some hills & low mountains
- Total Land Area – 5128 sq. km
- Elevation extremes:
 - lowest – Caribbean sea (0 m)
 - Highest – El Cerro del Aripo (940 m)



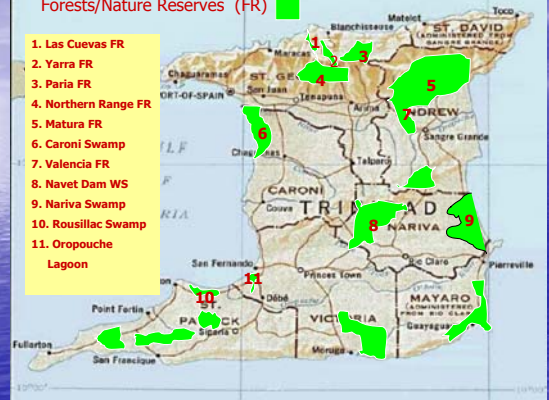
Landscape

- Diversity of ecosystems
- Rivers & streams water fertile plains
- Many wetlands filled with wildlife
 - E.g. Nariva, Oropouche & Caroni Swamps
- Flora & Fauna mainly South American



Forests/Nature Reserves (FR)

1. Las Cuevas FR
2. Yarra FR
3. Paria FR
4. Northern Range FR
5. Matura FR
6. Caroni Swamp
7. Valencia FR
8. Navet Dam WS
9. Nariva Swamp
10. Rousillac Swamp
11. Oropouche Lagoon

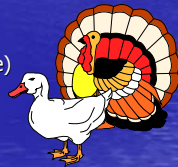


Animal Production (Avian)

- Poultry Production p.a. (2005 census)
- Courtesy of PSU
 - Broilers – 4 ½ - 5 million
 - Layers – 50,000
 - Ducks - 100,000
 - Common Fowl – 10,000
 - Turkeys – 2,000 (rough estimate)



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Animal Production (Avian)

- Wild/non-domestic captive birds
- Pet shops/pet birds
- Point-a-Pierre Wildfowl Trust
- Emperor Valley Zoo
- Racing pigeons
- Wild birds – no population census
- ASA Wright Nature Centre
- Caroni Swamp



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Avian Disease Surveillance

- Poultry Surveillance Unit
- Routine visits to farms every 2 weeks
- *Salmonella* spp., ILT
- Serology – Sera, >1000 birds, awaiting kits
 - AI, Newcastle's, Infectious Bronchitis, Gumboro

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Animal Production (Equine)

- Horses (2004) – TT Racing Authority
- Total in T&T - 1,190
- Horses at Race Track - 478
 - Horses in Training
 - 2 year olds – 152
 - 3 year olds – 127
 - 4 year olds – 91
 - 5 and over – 108
 - ♦ Total 478

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Animal Production (Equine)

- Stallions at Stud – 32
- Mares at Stud – 335
- Yearlings (Foals of 2003) - 165
- Foals of 2004 (estimated) - 180



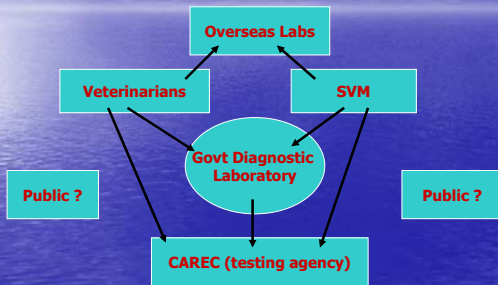
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West Nile Virus Surveillance

- History
- 2000-2001- Serosurveillance for WNV in sentinel chickens (CDC, CAREC & PSU)
- 2001-2004 - Monitoring for increase in dead wild birds
- Screening of Dengues and encephalitis cases
- No positive results found

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West Nile Virus Surveillance



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West Nile Virus Surveillance

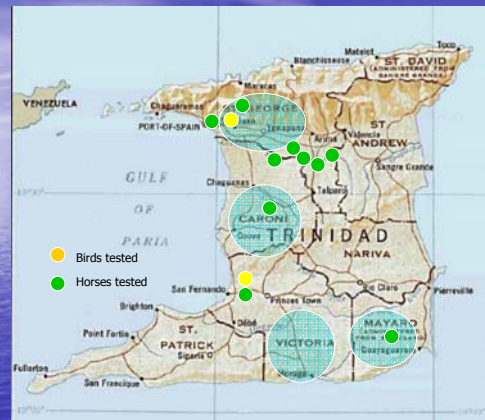
- **2004 – UWI, CAREC, CIRAD**
Sero surveillance in horses (n=250) and birds (n=50)
- **2005 – CDC (USA), UWI, CAREC**
Completed serosurvey in 150 horses (Summer 2005)
- **Currently**
MOH Only dead bird surveillance
- **UWI, CAREC, MT. HOPE HOSPITAL**
Surveillance for EEE, VEE, WN
- **Increased passive surveillance by Veterinarians**

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WNV Results

- CAREC - 2 horses (3.3%) and 2 birds (5.3%) confirmed positive by PRNT (November 2004)
- Others positive by screening test (HIA) 21% horses, 28% birds. No confirmation on these samples
- CIRAD - 3 horses (1.8%), 3 birds (4.4%) positive by ELISA (2004 - 2005)

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Mosquito Surveillance



- Min of Health
Conducted 2 – 3 months post WNV results in Point-a-Pierre, Arima Race Track, St. Anns (Emperor Valley Zoo)
- CAREC Plans drafted awaiting funds
- No testing presently

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Acknowledgements

- Dr. L. Musai – Poultry Surveillance Unit
- Dr. C. Wharwood – Vet Diagnostic Lab
- Trinidad & Tobago Racing Authority
- Dr. G. Brown – School of Vet Medicine (SVM)
- Dr. D. Coombs - SVM
- Ms. K. Polson – CAREC
- Dr. R. Salas – CAREC
- Dr. S. Rahaman – Ministry of Health
- Dr. R. Holder – SVM

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