

Crop Improvement Program

Crop Improvement Program

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

1. Name of the Planned Program

Crop Improvement Program

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
202	Plant Genetic Resources	10%		10%	
204	Plant Product Quality and Utility (Preharvest)	40%		40%	
205	Plant Management Systems	50%		50%	
Total		100%		100%	

V(C). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Actual amount of professional FTE/SYs expended this Program

Year: 2008	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
Plan	2.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
Actual	1.0	0.0	2.8	0.0

2. Actual dollars expended in this Program (includes Carryover Funds from previous years)

Extension		Research	
Smith-Lever 3b & 3c 60988	1890 Extension	Hatch 311875	Evans-Allen
	0		0
1862 Matching	1890 Matching	1862 Matching	1890 Matching
0	0	0	0
1862 All Other	1890 All Other	1862 All Other	1890 All Other
0	0	0	0

V(D). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Brief description of the Activity

Tissue culture of economically important crops conducted such as banana, sweet potato, taro etc. to produce quality and disease free plants. Field trials and evaluations of new varieties in fruits, root crops and vegetables continued in local soil and climatic conditions of the CNMI. Research projects in the form of fruit and vegetable variety trials performed locally. Workshops conducted for farmers, extension agents, and students on fruit tree grafting, crop production and improvement along with other propagation techniques. Publications (brochures and fact sheets) and video production produced and disseminated through informational seminars and lectures. Farmer-type gatherings such as association meetings, soil and water conservation district meetings and forums, field days organized. Students from the grade school, high school and college also involved in the activities, presentations and field days. Implemented best management practices on farms.

2. Brief description of the target audience

- Government /Agency Collaborators
- All farm crop producers and farm helpers in the CNMI
- Business operators that promote or sell farm produc
- Grade school, High School and College student
- Adult Volunteer Leaders (4-H Clubs)

V(E). Planned Program (Outputs)**1. Standard output measures****Target for the number of persons (contacts) reached through direct and indirect contact methods**

	Direct Contacts Adults	Indirect Contacts Adults	Direct Contacts Youth	Indirect Contacts Youth
Year	Target	Target	Target	Target
Plan	100	500	100	500
2008	150	600	200	250

2. Number of Patent Applications Submitted (Standard Research Output)**Patent Applications Submitted**

Year	Target
-------------	---------------

Plan:	0
--------------	---

2008:	0
-------	---

Patents listed**3. Publications (Standard General Output Measure)****Number of Peer Reviewed Publications**

	Extension	Research	Total
Plan	0	2	
2008	1	2	3

V(F). State Defined Outputs**Output Target****Output #1****Output Measure**

Number of research projects completed on Crop Improvement Issues

Year	Target	Actual
2008	2	2

V(G). State Defined Outcomes

O No.	Outcome Name
1	Number of households that begin to grow food in their own garden
2	Number of farmers that learn to use Organic agriculture production systems on farm
3	Number of farmers using Sustainable Agriculture techniques (best management practices) such as cover cropping, mulching, rotational grazing, no-till farming, composting, etc...

Outcome #1

1. Outcome Measures

Not reporting on this Outcome for this Annual Report

2. Associated Institution Types

3a. Outcome Type:

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
------	---------------------	--------

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement

Issue (Who cares and Why)

What has been done

Results

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
---------	----------------

V(H). Planned Program (External Factors)

External factors which affected outcomes

Natural Disasters (drought, weather extremes, etc.)

Economy

Competing Public priorities

Brief Explanation

We did not experience any external factors that would hinder the progress of our projects for this fiscal year.

V(I). Planned Program (Evaluation Studies and Data Collection)

1. Evaluation Studies Planned

Time series (multiple points before and after program)

Evaluation Results

Time series (multiple points before and after program)

Key Items of Evaluation

NMC CREES continues to address key themes listed in Goal 1 by carrying out plans listed in our current 5 year Plan of Work. The hiring of new research staff has increased our capacity this past fiscal year. We are currently working on three hatch projects and various competitive grants to improve program functionality. Although we are currently still acquiring data on the aforementioned projects, this increased capacity has brought about positive improvements. A new plant pathology lab fit with tissue culture capability is now functional. Another notable improvement is the current fertigation and chemigation capability at our As Perdido Experiment Station. Introduction of new affordable and efficient technology will likely support and continue the momentum of aggressiveness of farmers. Finding ways to lower cost of production is necessary for successful operation in the CNMI.