

Global Agriculture Information Network

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Caribbean Basin ATO ACTIVITIES reports AgExport Opportunities - February 1999

Prepared by:

W. Collie

Caribbean Basin Agricultural Trade Office

Drafted by: J. Rousseau

Report Highlights:

This report provides information on three marketing activities targeting the food and beverage industry in Puerto Rico and Caribbean hotels, and a reduction of the surtax on some imported food items in Barbados.

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AGRICULTURAL EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES UPDATE February, 1999 FAS/Miami Caribbean Basin Agricultural Trade Office 909 S.E. 1st. Ave., Suite 720, Miami, FL 33131

I. UPCOMING PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

The promotional activities listed are provided for informational purposes only. No endorsement should be implied unless specifically stated. Terms and conditions of participation are the responsibility of the activity organizer. Please contact the organizer directly for further information.

A. TRADE SHOWS

EXPO ALIMENTOS (Food-Expo '99) Puerto Rico International Food Exposition April 10-12, 1999 Roberto Clemente Coliseum San Juan, Puerto Rico

The Puerto Rico Food Marketing and Distribution Association's (MIDA) annual Food-Expo '99 is an excellent venue for companies interested in selling food products, equipment and services to the major supermarket chains, stores and distributors in Puerto Rico. Endorsed by the Food Marketing Institute (FMI), Food-Expo '99 will include the participation of companies from Puerto Rico, Mexico, the Caribbean, Canada, Central and South America, and is expected to bring in over five thousand buyers in the retail and food service industry, from Puerto Rico and the region. Contact: Willis Collie, Caribbean Basin Agricultural Trade Office, 909 SE First Avenue, Suite 720, Miami, FL 33131; Tel:305-536-5300, Fax: 305-536-7577, e-mail: cbato@ibm.net.

"A TASTE OF THE CARIBBEAN" July 28-31, 1999 Miami, FL

Caribbean Culinary Federation's annual culinary event and trade show is the premier food and beverage event for the Caribbean tourist industry. "TASTE" is the place to be for companies who are interested in selling to the leading hotels and resorts in the Caribbean. This year's event features an expanded trade show where you can showcase food and beverage products to chefs and food and beverage personnel from across the Caribbean. That, along with the culinary competition and the seminars, highlighting the latest trends in the food industry, provides the forum to make and renew contacts in this growing and dynamic tourist industry. Contact: Willis Collie, Caribbean Basin Agricultural Trade Office, 909 SE First Avenue, Suite 720, Miami, FL 33131; Tel:305-536-5300, Fax: 305-536-7577, e-mail: cbato@ibm.net.

II. KEY MARKET INFORMATION

As of April 1, 1999, the Government of Barbados will reduce the surtax on a number of imported food products, from 75% to 35%. The food products include biscuits, pastry, cakes and other "fine bakers' wares, margarine, pasta products, and processed vegetables. As of March 31, 2000, the existing surtax will be eliminated.

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