



BEFORE & AFTER Pig Farmers Learn the Keys to Success

Volunteers recommend managing and keeping records by computer

Members of the Jamaica Pig Farmers Association are moving towards larger, more profitable pig farms, which have brought new challenges in management and record keeping. With the help of USAID, association members are now on their way to achieving their goals of improved record keeping and farm management systems. Volunteers from the United States traveled to Jamaica to introduce basic record keeping principles and to train farmers on a computerized record keeping program. As one volunteer said, "It was extremely rewarding to see the enthusiasm of all the participants in the workshop as they started to realize the power of the database and how it could help improve their efficiencies." Association members now have more of the tools needed to manage larger farms and to benefit from breeding programs.



Photo: Partners/Peggy Carlison

BEFORE Record keeping for Jamaican pig farmers often consisted only of a chalkboard with the date, current number of pigs and record of any deaths among the pigs on the farm.



Photo: Partners/Morgan Morrow

AFTER With the help of volunteers from a USAID program, many Jamaican pig farmers now have the knowledge and the tools to maintain sophisticated records about their farms by computer, allowing them to expand to larger, more profitable pig farms.