

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN CUBA

WHERE:

Estación Experimental Indio Hatuey;
Universidad de Matanzas, Cuba

WHEN:

May 13-27, 2017 (2 weeks)

CONTACT:

For more information, contact:

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WHY CUBA

Agriculture faces the unprecedented challenge of feeding a rapidly increasing world population, while global warming cuts yields, and it is imperative to avoid the damage to the natural resource base commonly linked to modern agriculture.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1989, facing extreme scarcity of agricultural inputs and energy, Cuba was forced to develop alternative cutting-edge agricultural technologies and re-shape its production strategies.

THE PROGRAM

This short course offers an exciting opportunity to understand a production model that has made great strides and at the same time faces serious challenges. It will focus on aspects such as productivity, agricultural inputs, environmental protection, resource management, extension, social organization, and marketing.

Offered to graduate and advanced undergraduate students from Auburn University, EEIH, and Costa Rican public universities. Professors will also include US, Cuban and Costa Rican faculty.

SCHEDULE

Modelled after the famous OTS model consisting of hands-on experiential learning with a strong research emphasis, also includes field trips to farms, businesses, and research centers; faculty-led research projects; and independent research project.

Sample topics covered:

- ◆ Agroecological production in Cuba
- ◆ Alternative inputs (biological control, bio-fertilizers, efficient microorganisms, biodegestors, alternative energy, brassinolides, farm-level biotechnology)
- ◆ Urban and peri-urban agriculture
- ◆ Government run & private farms
- ◆ Sustainable animal husbandry
- ◆ Marketing; Extension; Tech adoption

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| Day 1 – | Trip to Cuba (city tour) |
| Day 2 – | Travel to EEPF, & intro |
| Days 3 – 14 | Lectures, field-trips, research, project presentations (2-day week-end trip), farewell. |
| Day 15 – | Trip home |



TUITION \$2500

Includes room and board, internal travel, materials. Does NOT include international travel costs.