

**TRIBUTE ON THE PASSING OF
DR. REGINALD E. PIERRE, IICA PERSONNEL EMERITUS**



Wednesday 22 March 2023: The entire *IICA Family*, especially the Director General, Dr. Manuel Otero, Representative & Staff of the IICA Delegations in the Eastern Caribbean States (ECS), mourns the passing of our dear retired employee, Dr. Reginald Pierre. We extend our profound sympathy to his beloved wife, Dr. Marion Pierre, and family in this sad and difficult time. May the soul of Dr. Pierre rest in eternal Peace!

Dr. Pierre joined IICA as an Agricultural Production Specialist in the Guyana office in October of 1977 and in July 1981 he became the Director of the Guyana office. As he continued to make his mark in IICA, he was appointed to the position of Director of the ECS offices in October 1983, based in Saint Lucia. In May 1987 he was transferred to IICA Headquarters in Costa Rica as the Director of Operations of the Caribbean Area. As part of a restructuring process in IICA, Dr. Pierre was transferred to Barbados in April 1989 as Director of Operations of the Caribbean Area and Representative in the Barbados Office. In May 1995, Dr. Pierre was transferred to the office in the United States of America in Washington as Special Advisor to the Director General for Caribbean Affairs. On his final leg with IICA to retirement, he was repatriated to his homeland Grenada in March 1997 where he continued in his position as Special Advisor to the Director General for Caribbean Affairs until his official retirement later that year.

Dr. Pierre was a Plant Pathologist by profession and served IICA and by extension the IICA Member States well in this capacity. He was a consummate professional. Those who were privileged to have worked along with him will attest to his genuine interest in developing the agriculture sectors and to improve the well-being of the people of the Caribbean region. In his thrust to realize this growth, he ensured that IICA hired the best professionals in the respective areas of agriculture to aid in this achievement. It was under his leadership in collaboration with the IICA authorities at Headquarters that IICA started a Junior Professional Program which bore the fruits of having a number of Caribbean young professionals trained and who gained experience to serve the region and beyond. Some of those professionals took up jobs with IICA and other regional and international agricultural organizations.



So much can be said about Dr. Pierre as a professional, but we do not want to take away from the writings of his life by his family and others. However, in the context of the Caribbean region, it is important to make known that he started his career in agriculture in his homeland of Grenada. He was also the first Director of the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) which was established by 12 CARICOM member countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago) in 1975.

Dr. Pierre, you have made your mark in the agriculture footprints of the Caribbean region. Gone but not forgotten; rest with the angels.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'Gregg C. Rawlins', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and extends to the right.

Gregg C. Rawlins
IICA Representative in the ECS