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# Barbados' Agrofest 2020, 'We Gatherin' We Fruit', Set for Feb. 27-March 1

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## Barbados Agrofest Goat Race By. BARBADOS AGROFEST

BARBADOS — Barbados's Agrofest will be held from February 27 to March 1 in Queen's Park, Bridgetown, under the theme: We Gatherin' We Fruit, which, according to Chief Executive Officer of the Barbados Agricultural Society (BAS), James Paul, reflects their focus on the productive element of the agriculture sector.

“In essence, it is the fruits of our labour. We want to show you what the agricultural sector is doing.... [we also want to showcase] the extent to which innovation is coming into the agricultural sector and creating new types of products,” he stated, during an interview with the government-run news service.

With over 200 exhibitors registered thus far, Mr. Paul said he was pleased with the level of interest and innovation shown by young people.

He, however, pointed out that they were willing to accommodate those who missed the February 7th registration deadline, stating: "...especially those coming with something that is unique... [if] we can find the sponsorship, or they can help sponsor themselves, we are willing to bring them in; because one of the things is that we want to encourage people to be creative."

In addition to the ever popular livestock and dog shows, there will be numerous activities and events to captivate patrons. These include, the new hot wings eating contest; an expanded fashion show featuring the work of local upcoming designers; and the Games of Yesteryear, which give children a chance to engage in the childhood games of their parents and grandparents, such as hopscotch. There will also be the school culinary and kitchen garden competitions.

As it relates to the culinary offerings, Mr. Paul said patrons would be in for a treat, as, in addition to the usual items, there would be sampling ice cream made from coconut water.

Meanwhile, Mr. Paul indicated that the organizers were anticipating increased patronage of the event, in light of the We Gatherin celebrations and the influx of tourists.

"We are going out to the hotels and we know there're going to be cruise ships in Barbados that weekend and we will have someone at the port [promoting the event]."

The CEO of the BAS also encouraged Barbadians to continue to support the local farming and manufacturing communities, stating: "We need to lift up those people who are really making a significant contribution to our productive sectors."