



Right Place, Right Time

On Guam, agricultural production is characterized as many small operations, most an acre or smaller (90% of operations). The challenge is making “large scale production” practices and technology viable for micro-plot and small production farmers. Therefore, harvest and mass storage of product for each operation has not been economically viable because traditional systems use a lot of energy (a very expensive resource on Guam).

Connection to audiences is critical to establishing a bridge between information and users. Through an effort to gather information about agricultural production on Guam, Extension professionals Jesse Bamba and Kuan-Ju Chen connected with producers not familiar with Extension’s resources. Further inquiries told us why: language. As native Chinese-speaking individuals, these producers had not connected with Extension resources, nor had Extension connected to the producer group. As a native speaker, Dr. Chen was able to translate information and answer questions posed to Mr. Bamba. This basic interaction was instrumental in establishing a dialogue and building a relationship between producers and experts. The continuing discussion further identified a need from these producers regarding the storage of vegetables once harvested. Extension professional Jesse Bamba was already investigating options to address the exact question. Building on the Extension research and education from the University of California-Davis, Mr. Bamba identified a product to use in small space containment areas to maintain cool temperatures for storage. It was the right place and right time to explore small scale cooling for safe storage and safe post-harvest



Left: Jesse Bamba; Right: Dr. Kuan-Ju Chen

handling technology. All efforts contribute to food security, sustainability, and supply efforts for Guam and the region.

If you are interested in learning more about this program, reach out to our Extension Professionals below:

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