



The System of Rice Intensification (SRI) and its Adaptation to Sugarcane in Cuba

Rena Pérez

September 9, 2015

4:00-5:00 PM B75 Conference Room Mann Library

After graduating from Cornell University in 1958 with a B.S. in agricultural sciences, Rena Pérez settled in Cuba where she lives today. She worked at the Institute of Animal Science in Havana from 1964 to 1970 while completing her PhD in poultry science. She subsequently worked with swine production, and in 2000 began working with animal production for the Ministry of Sugar. That same year, she learned of the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) and began trials with the new methodology through the sugar cooperatives she had previously worked with.

For over ten years, Pérez has served as volunteer coordinator for SRI activities in Cuba. After learning in 2010 about the Sustainable Sugarcane Initiative (SSI) in India, she began working on adapting SRI principles to sugarcane in Bahia Honda, Cuba. Pérez' seminar will focus on her experiences over the past decade with the introduction, development and spread of both SRI and SSI in Cuba.

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