

**USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Federal Women Program
Special Emphasis Program (FWPM-SEP)
Caribbean Area – Quarter #2 – March, 2013**

***Recognition to two NRCS' employees during the
Women's History Month Celebration
March 8, 2013***

As in previous years, NRCS received an invitation from Agro. Damián Rivera, President of the Puerto Rico's College of Agronomists to participate in a recognition event the CAPR offers to female agronomists who works for private industries, the academy, as well as for local and federal government agencies around the Island. This activity was celebrated in March 8, 2013, at Rest. La Guardarraya in Yauco PR, as part of the National Women's Celebration Day.

For this occasion, NRCS selected two female employees that have many years of experience working in the field applying agronomic principles and both have a Bachelor Degree in Agronomy Science, they are: Sonia N. Burgos-Colón, Soil Conservationist, from Caguas Field Office, and Ileana M. Curbelo-López, Natural Resources Specialist & Toolkit Coordinator, from Arecibo Field Office.

Eng. Lydia E. Collazo-De Jesús, FWPM, talked to the audience in representation of Agro. Edwin Almodóvar, Director. She gave a recognition plaque or commemorative inscription to each of our employees. They had the opportunity to salute and share with Agro. Myrna Comas, PhD, who is the PR's Secretary of Agriculture. Dr. Comas was specially recognized by the CAPR during the activity because she is the first female Agronomist appointed to that prestigious position in the PR Governor's Board.



From left to right: Eng. Lydia E. Collazo- FWPM, Ileana Curbelo-NRS&TC, Dr. Myrna Comas, Secretary of Agriculture, and Sonia Burgos-SC.



The PR's College of Agronomists gave a very emotive recognition to Dr. Myrna Comas, because she is the 1st Female Agronomists appointed Secretary of Agriculture in PR, and she also is an active member of the CAPR.

Additional Pictures of the event:



Partial views from the meeting room, there were representatives from the PR's Milking Industry, Agricultural Extension Service, PR's Department of Agriculture, University of Puerto Rico, PR's Education Department, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Services, Pr' College of Agronomists, and some others.



During the morning the CAPR offered several conferences, such as: Roles of Women in PR's Culture; History about how females from other cultures populated PR during the XVI Century, emphasizing their limitations in a culture dominated by men; At the end, they presented few success stories about Puertorrican females who lived in past decades.

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