



## Award ceremony for jalapeño pepper producers - 2008

Fintrac, through MCA-H/EDA and USAID-RED, organized an award ceremony for the jalapeño pepper producers that obtained the highest yields during 2008. The event was held in Comayagua on April 1, 2009.

Efraín Figueroa, SAG's deputy minister, inaugurated the event. The topics covered at the event included an overview of jalapeño pepper results; important production issues for producers; the perspectives of two processors - Mount Dora Farms and Deli Pepper; and insights into Dagoberto Morales' experience as a jalapeño pepper producer. Participants also discussed marketing options for jalapeño pepper and the use of onion as a rotation crop. Growers were also awarded prizes based on the production results.

The producers were classified in two categories: a general category for experienced producers and second category for those producers that were growing jalapeño pepper for the first time. The producers were awarded a plaque from Fintrac and various prizes from several commercial firms.



*Photos by Fintrac Inc.*  
Efraín Figueroa, SAG's deputy minister, hands Luis Alfredo Corrales from San Marcos de Colón, Choluteca his award for first place.

Position	Producer	Yields (Pounds/ Hectare)	Department
<b>GENERAL CATEGORY</b>			
1º	Luis Alfredo Corrales	286,520	Choluteca
2º	Alexis Vidal	253,000	Copán
3º	Ángel Quijada	251,232	El Paraíso
<b>BEGINNER CATEGORY</b>			
1º	Héctor Darío Cabrera	248,255	Olancho
2º	Miguel Ángel Rodríguez	201,496	El Paraíso

Mount Dora Farms sponsored the activity and distributed samples of their processed products to the participants. Many other commercial firms set up exhibition booths featuring their products including: Deli Pepper that provided a tasting of jalapeño poppers filled with cream cheese, Seminis, Sakata-COHORSIL, Fertica/Cadelga, Agropecuaria del Campo, PYFLOR, Bayer, Amanco-COHORSIL, Banco Lafise, Banco Atlántida, R & M, Duwest and Atlántica Agrícola.

A total of 132 people participated, 128 men and 4 women from different parts of Honduras.

In 2008 MCA-H/EDA provided technical assistance to 75 producers that planted 97.84 hectares of jalapeño pepper in 12 departments. In 2008, the production cycle was completed on 54.82 hectares obtaining a total production of 4.7 million lbs., which represents \$876,925 in gross sales and \$196,070 in net profits.

Jalapeño pepper can be a very profitable crop when it is managed adequately with yields per hectare of 120,000 lbs. (this represents 42% of the winning producer's yields). Accordingly, production costs average \$17,319 and net income per hectare \$7,438, which represents a return of 43% on production costs.

Jalapeño pepper continues to be a very attractive crop for producers with a stable market and fixed price contracts with processing plants.



Efraín Figueroa, SAG's deputy minister, hands Héctor Darío Cabrera from Olancho, his award for first place beginner category.



Virgilio Galo, general manager of ImportFrut, Ing. Mario Velásquez, general manager Mount Dora Farms and Dagoberto Morales, a producer from Comayagua

