

# St. Peter and Paul Federation of Farmers Associations

- Behind every great organization lies the dedicated staff that empowers and motivates their members. The Fiorini Families provide monthly salaries for 5 staff that include 3 agricultural technicians and 2 assistants university students shown at their bimonthly planning meetings. Also shown are members of the Federation in their bi-annual assemblies meetings as well as their monthly meetings of coordinating committee with representation of each farmers association. This staff assistance is the key behind all the agricultural and forestry projects as well as the organizational maintenance that is required to keep the 10 farmers' association and the overall Federation functioning.



# Dedication Ceremony

In November, 2021 we he hosted a commission from the Rockville Dioceses of Long Island to celebrate the blessing and inauguration of several projects that included our new tree nursery, a seed germinating house, a greenhouse , a worm farm, organic fertilizers, a half acre shaded garden and two fish ponds . Our agriculture project is a work in progress dedicated to the Fiorini Families who have faithful sponsored this project since 2010. We hope that some day our program will be become completely sustainable. Our goal is to continue coordinating our efforts with the Ministry of Agriculture with hopes that the salaries of all three of our agricultural technicians will be paid for by the government. Our lead organizer s' salary is now paid for by the Ministry of Agriculture. The proceeds from the Commercial Center we hope will someday pay for our two university students.

We hope and pray that your donations will continue until this day arrives that we can say our Agriculture Project is indeed Sustainable.

**ASOCIACIÓN DE AGRICULTORES SAN PEDRO Y PABLO  
DEL MUNICIPIO DE EL CERCADO**

**AGRICULTORA SOSTENIBLE**

**VIVERO    LONBRICES    GERMINADOR    INVERNADERO    HUERTO    PECERA**



**DEDICADO A: HERMANOS FIORINI `S**





# Fruit Tree Nursery

This past year we dedicated this fruit tree nursery that will hold over 100,000 tree samplings in honor of our generous sponsors: the Fiorini Families. Our 10 farmers associations have decided to collect seeds and grow: coffee, avocados, cacao, oranges, mangos and lemons. All the trees will later be planted in their farmlands. Thus far the Federation of Farmers have built a total of 21 smaller community nurseries.





# Reforesting the Mountains and River Basins

This past spring women, farmers, students, young people made a concerted effort to plant over 30,000 fast growing trees in bare mountain sides and along rivers that store our major sources of water. Our Federation of Farmers Associations alone planted over 10,000 of these trees involving 10 local communities. Its been a great year for rains and almost a certain guarantee that 90% of these trees will grown. Next year the goal will be 50,000 trees.





# Seed Germinating House

The Federation also secured funding to construct a seed germinating house to grow seedlings for family gardens and open vegetable garden located next to the structure. The building will be used to start lettuce, carrots, cabbage, okra, brocoli , tomatoes, celery, peppers, cucumbers, spinach and eggplant. The Federation with its associations have planted with women over 300 family gardens.



**CENTRO DE ACOPIO Y COMERCIALIZACIÓN  
EL CERCADO (ASOCIACIÓN DE AGRICULTORES SAN PEDRO Y PABLO)**

**“COME SANO, CUIDA TU FAMILIA”**



**VEGETALES Y FRUTAS ORGANICO**





# Shaded Garden

This large shaded garden, over a half of acre, was constructed this year next to the germinating structure. The garden will have a variety of organic products including lettuce, cabbage, peppers, cucumbers, carrots, tomatoes, brocolli to be sold at our local Comercial Center owned by the Federation. High students from the our technical schools studying agronomy and enviromental conservation regulary bring their students to learn drop irrigation methods and organic farming methods.





# Organic Fertilizers and Natural Pesticides

A conscious decision was made several years ago to change our farming methods to organic. Since then the farmers associations have been training in worm composting, manure collecting, production of natural pesticides', weed composting and green liquids to produce nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium and micronutrients as seen in these tanks. This past year a large worm farm was build in Villa Verde. Every three months this worm farm can produce 8000 pounds of organic fertilizer.





# Making Environmental Protection Alliances

Early spring 2022, the Federation of Farmers Associations hosted a meeting of 12 local institutions to begin to address the problem of environmental contamination in El Cercado. Several topics we discussed including the burning of garbage, the relocation of the town garbage dump, deforestation, slash and burning of the mountainsides, the contamination of rivers including the death of many fish, extraction of materials in riverbeds. An Alliance was formed and two initiatives are in progress including the relocation of the town garbage dump and reforestation efforts. Are currently being addressed. The Federation is also coordinating their efforts with Caritas San Juan and two national organizations that have included grants for 2022 of family gardens, training workshops for organic production and saving and loan cooperatives for farmers.





# Agricultural Associations

The following pictures are pre-pandemic fotos. We are currently in the process of reactivating and reorganizing the several farmers associations that were unable to meet and work together during COVID. All of this takes time but we have the beginnings once again of 10 farmers associations that are filled with hopes and dreams of farming in an organic sustainable way. We hope that by the end of 2022 we will once again have several thriving grassroot farmers associations working together to combat climate change , reforestation and improve crop production and yield. Our Federation of Farmers Associations has a new vision of tomorrow.

