

# Caribbean Climate Hub: Supporting the revival of agriculture and silviculture in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands after Hurricanes Irma and Maria

In response to the damages to the agricultural and forestry sectors caused by Hurricanes Irma and Maria, the [USDA Caribbean Climate Hub](http://www.caribbeanclimatehub.org) has undertaken the following objectives:

- Compile and disseminate information about the state and federal programs that provide disaster assistance for farmers and landowners in order to support rural communities;
- Document the effects of Hurricanes Irma and Maria on agriculture, livestock, and forests by collecting photos and videos;
- Collaborate with agencies and non-governmental organizations currently evaluating damages to share information and assist with data analysis;
- Develop a comprehensive assessment of damages, losses, needs and opportunities for recovery within the agricultural and forestry sectors in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



## Current initiatives and how to collaborate:

### Information about state and local programs:

Information is available at: <https://caribbeanclimatehub.org/impacto-agricola-huracanes/> or at our office at the International Institute of Tropical Forestry (IITF), Jardín Botánico Sur, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico. Please contact us if you would like to distribute paper copies.

### Agencies and organizations evaluating damages related to silviculture and agriculture:

Please contact us if you or your organization is involved with evaluations of the effects of the hurricane. Primary contact: Nora Álvarez-Berrios, Fellow - [nora.l.alvarez-berrios@usda.gov](mailto:nora.l.alvarez-berrios@usda.gov); (787) -764-7767

### Collection of visual material to document and better understand the effects of the hurricanes:

We are compiling photos, videos and information about hurricane effects on agriculture, livestock, and plantations in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to create an inventory of damages and identify ways to help the recovery of the agricultural sector. To find out how to participate in this initiative, see the other side of this page.



Share your photos, videos and stories with the Caribbean Climate Hub!

Photos and videos will be used to illustrate the effects on the agricultural and forestry sectors in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and to identify ways we can assist with their recovery\*.

You can share your photos and videos in the following ways:

1. Upload photos or videos of the farm with a description of the damages onto our Facebook page: [Caribbean Climate Hub - Centro Climático del Caribe](#) with the hashtag #impactoagricolahunuracanes
2. Send an email with photos, videos, and descriptions to: [caribbeanclimatehub@gmail.com](mailto:caribbeanclimatehub@gmail.com)
3. Upload photos directly to our webpage: <https://caribbeanclimatehub.org/impacto-agricola-huracanes/>
4. Send photos directly through **Whatsapp** or text to (787)-360-9480

Please include the following information along with your photos or videos:

- Description of the farm or agricultural/ forestry business or project affected
- Physical address (sector, barrio, municipality)
- Type of crop(s) affected
- Description of or anecdotes about the damage/losses
- Author of the photo or video and date on which it was taken

\*The material shared may be used in scientific outreach, damage reports, and for research purposes. The author will be given credit.



The [USDA Caribbean Climate Hub](#) is located in San Juan, Puerto Rico and seeks to develop and provide scientific information, practical tools and greater capacity to the agricultural and forestry community of Puerto and the U.S. Virgin Islands to build resilience to climate change. We support the revival of agriculture and silviculture in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands after Hurricanes Irma and Maria. For more information visit:

Webpage: <https://caribbeanclimatehub.org/>; Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CaribeHub/>; Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CaribeHub>; YouTube- <http://www.youtube.com/c/CaribbeanClimateHub>

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Photos by: Lenny Álvarez, Nora Álvarez, Ricardo Burgos, 2017 ©

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