

**Finca Pellejas, Managed (Agriculture) Site
Puerto Rico 18.20475N 66.70954W**

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History: This site has been under human influence for centuries, including pre-Colombian use. This is a private farm used for cattle, coffee, and other types of crop production. Current agricultural use has been maintained for at least two centuries at more or less the same level of intensity, although the peak agricultural use was in the early 20th century.

Key Contribution to Domain and Continental issues: The site is proposed for study of the effects of hurricane passage, global climate change, pathogen outbreaks, and invasive species on agricultural systems. The site represents a tropical moist landscape totally dominated by agricultural activity. It offers an opportunity to contrast this landscape with urban and forested landscapes in terms of the effects of hurricanes, invasive species, land use, disease outbreaks, and climatic change. Within the domain, this site is a contrast to dry sites on a precipitation gradient and wet sites along a land use gradient (urban, coastal, and forested). Gradient studies complemented by mobile unit campaigns, will be able to evaluate the relationships between climate, nutrient cycling, and management practices.

Key Characteristics: The vegetation is evergreen secondary moist tropical forest, perennial coffee plantations, and perennial pastures. Pastures occur on flat valleys and low elevation hillsides. Coffee plantations occur on slopes, and secondary forests on steep slopes and top of watersheds. Soils are all volcanic, clay, and acidic.

Existing Infrastructure: Sites are easily accessible by vehicle and within the site by 4-wheel drive. There is electricity and a well-equipped house on the property.

Facilities: A University of Puerto Rico Agricultural Research Station with a climatic station, laboratories, nurseries, library, rooms, dormitory, and many other research facilities is within a few kilometers of the farm. The site has laboratory facilities, dorms, cooking facilities, telephone, FAX, and Internet access.

