

# The Agripreneurs Hub Report

By Farmcity

---



## The Agripreneurs Hub.

The Agripreneurs' Hub is an initiative launched by Farmcity to accompany and support local entrepreneurs in their journey to start and grow their agri ideas. Farmcity's support includes dedicated space for the agripreneur at the Learning Farm, in addition to a tailored mentorship program. The Agripreneurs' Hub offers aspiring agripreneurs a chance to test-bed their idea on a small scale, in a collaborative space, with like-minded agripreneurs.

by farmcity

## The Progress

Our infrastructure setup began in July 2020. Our goal was to make sure we could accommodate 15 Agripreneurs/teams to work at the Hub. This required us to increase our storage space, add more solar power, add more water points etc. The photo below shows the main layout of the 15 plots, each providing a surface area of about 80-90 square meters.



## July-Nov 2020 - Infrastructure Setup

### Building the base

The photo below shows the preparation of the concrete base, where the new storage/shelter would sit.



### Adding the Curbs



**Before and After adding the new storage space**



## Additional Power + 6 brand new water tanks

A new solar system was purchased from Renewworld Ltd, to provide energy to the site.



## Launch Event and Photos

Two launch events were held on 5 Nov 2020, and 4 Dec 2020, to inaugurate The Agripreneurs Hub. The first 3 Agripreneurs of our pioneer batch were present to showcase their ideas.

Welcoming

UK High Commissioner to the Hub



Welcoming

HSBC Mauritius CEO



## Selected Agripreneurs with offer letter sent out

- (1) Linley - Home Aquaponics,
- (2) Brando - Self-irrigated planter beds
- (3) Barthelemy - Oyas Project
- (4) Jeet - Microgreens Project
- (5) Nuzhah - Mushroom Production

## Mentorship (First Session began on 16 December 2020)



## Learnings

1. Commitment of agripreneurs has been an issue, and the most common roadblock is that agripreneurs are still waiting on their raw materials to arrive but there are significant delays at the port. An in-depth session with each of the agripreneurs has been arranged to figure out how best we can support their needs.
2. Finance: With the current uncertain economic situation prevalent in Mauritius, most agripreneurs feel that they need a side income as a backup. The Startup Ecosystem is still very nascent on the island and support in Mauritius is rare. Financial support for small entrepreneurs is relatively limited on the island, and some institutions require a lot of collateral before giving support. We plan to invite selected representatives from SME banking sector as well as alternative funding sources like

[FundKiss](#) to give a talk at the Hub to share about other potential funding opportunities.

3. Product to market: Products from agripreneurs are still at early stages of development, but this allows agripreneurs to test and get early feedback from the market.

## Social Media Posts shared so far

- Between October and December 2020, five (5) Social media posts have been shared so far totalling: **296 Likes/Comments** and **21 Reshares**
- Upcoming posts will feature events organised at the Hub, presentation of new agripreneurs joining the Hub and products/services from agripreneurs.





**Farmcity**

Posted by Wesley Oxenham  
4 Dec 2020 · 🌐

Officially launched today: The Agripreneurs Hub, a collaborative space that provides fertile ground for agripreneurs to ideate, experiment and... See more



👍❤️👏 93



**Farmcity**

Posted by IG FarmCity  
30 Oct 2020 · Instagram · 🌐

#Agripreneurs space setup in progress.  
[www.farmcity.co/hub](http://www.farmcity.co/hub) to apply



👍❤️👏 21

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share



**Farmcity**

Posted by Wesley Oxenham  
15 Oct 2020 · 🌐

Super stoked to share the support of the British High Commission (UK in Mauritius) for The Agripreneurs Hub! Brick by brick, we ar... See more



👍❤️👏 51

1 Comment 3 shares

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share



**Farmcity**

Posted by Wesley Oxenham  
9 Oct 2020 · 🌐

Mutual support among entrepreneurs fuels growth. We are excited to welcome our new tenants and fellow agripreneurs soon at The Agripre... See more



👍❤️👏 25

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share



[View photo folder containing entire progress](#)