



## **Frosty Pod Rot Hotline Protocol**

In an effort to quickly ascertain the spread of the Frosty Pod Rot disease in cocoa across Jamaica, a hotline system was established in 2016. The hotline system came in effect immediately upon confirmation of the disease and following the Minister's press briefing to the country on September 29, 2016.

The disease has been confirmed in four parishes- Clarendon, St. Mary, St. Catherine, and St. Andrew and continues to spread rapidly. As a result, the National Plant Protection Organization, the Plant Quarantine/Produce Inspection Branch, reinstated the revised Plants (Quarantine) Frosty Pod Rot Order, 2017, which was gazetted on December 13, 2017.

The revised Order dictates that the inter-parish movement of cocoa pods, plants, seedlings, cuttings, plant products, plant related material or plant related articles is not permitted nor the sale of cocoa pods outside of the parish of harvest, unless written permission is given by the Chief Plant Quarantine/Produce Inspector (Sections 4-5). These measures are in an effort to prevent the movement of the disease into currently uninfected areas.

Calls related to Frosty Pod Rot may be directed to the FPR Contact Point in the Pest Risk Analysis Unit of the Plant Quarantine/ Produce Inspection Branch at **(876) 977-7160** or **(876) 435-5828**.

Callers should be advised of the importance of cooperating with the Branch and the Frosty Pod Rot Project Team. They may also visit the MICA website ([moa.gov.jm](http://moa.gov.jm)) for more information on the management strategies being employed.