



# *Discover the Cover*

## **USVI Cover Crop and Soil Health Training Workshop**

**April 3 & 4, 2014 University of the Virgin Islands, St. Croix**

**WHAT?** Expand your knowledge of cover crops and how they play an integral role in the health of our soil. How are cover crops managed to increase ecosystem services to our farmed land? Join us to explore the world of cover crops and the many benefits they can provide to your farm.

**WHEN?** Thursday, April 3, 2014 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Friday, April 4, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m.

**WHERE?** Thursday's event will be held at UVI's (STX), Research and Extension Center, Room 133 and Friday at the UVI-AES Research Facility. Friday's event will begin outside the South gate of the AES field facility. **For Friday, wear outdoor clothing and comfortable walking shoes.**

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND?** **Farmers, Agricultural Professionals, and Conservation/Environmental Specialists.**

**IS THERE A COST?** **The workshop is free.**

### **Agenda at a Glance**

#### **Thursday Afternoon**

- 5:30-6:00 Sign in, welcoming remarks, and speaker introduction.
- 6:00-6:30 The role of cover crops in promoting soil health. (Stuart Weiss)
- 6:30-7:00 Cover crop rotations in vegetable production systems. (Danielle Treadwell)
- 7:00-7:30 Leguminous cover crops and pest control in sweet corn and plantains. (Elide Valencia)
- 7:30-7:45 Overview of AES Agronomy Program cover crop research and closing remarks. (Stuart Weiss)

#### **Friday Morning**

- 8:45 a.m. Meet at AES field facility south gate.
- 9:00-10:30 Field tour begins. Tour sunn hemp and lablab cover crop fields, discuss planting and termination methods, demonstrate roller crimper.
- 10:30-1:00 Demonstrate soil aggregation, evaluate and compare soil pits, view and evaluate vegetable production using cover crop surface sheet mulch for weed suppression and soil health improvement.