

Category: News

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The health crisis unleashed in the world because of COVID-19, when the third month of 2020 was passing, also affected Isla de la Juventud, the second most important in the Cuban archipelago, where the application of science shortened the reins to galloping pace of the new coronavirus.

Dr. Israel Velázquez Batista, sector director of Public Health, praised the work of experts from different branches of knowledge that contributed to the decision-making of the Municipal Defense Council in controlling the situation, whose epidemic phase abruptly manifested itself in April with 42 cases of them a deceased.

If transmission was controlled in May, it was thanks to the fact that we did not lose the advantage of the opportunity against the SARS Cov-2 virus -which causes the disease-, we organized workflows in all health facilities, we extreme the observance of the regulations of biosecurity and we maximize the quality of medical services, he said. He stressed that equally important was the performance of the students of medicine and stomatology, Primary Health Care and activists of mass organizations in increasing active research, isolation and timely treatment of the sick, disinfection and other hygienic measures.

Extending border surveillance, changing the rules of conduct and routines in accordance with biosafety protocols allowed the pine trees to live 215 days or seven months and five days without new confirmed positive cases of COVID-19, until the moment of regrowth of the disease, commented the doctor.

He specified that although there is no tendency to contagion and there is to control the disease, the territory accumulates in this stage seven imported positive cases and nine autochthonous, therefore, the incidence rate is low: 2.39 per 100 thousand inhabitants in a municipality with just over 83 thousand residents.

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Unlike the behavior of the virus in the rest of the country, in this territory 78 percent of the positive cases for the new coronavirus in the epidemic phase were asymptomatic, of the 42 treated at the Héroes del Baire hospital, 30 passed the period of the disease without symptoms, recalled the health authority.

He added that in the current epidemiological context, border surveillance measures are maintained, he insisted on the importance of people being transparent in the information they offer and complying with discipline in the period of isolation at home after arriving in the territory to prevent the spread of the virus .

Stopping the transmission of the new coronavirus made it possible for the locals to go to the new normal and thus open the doors of 80 educational centers to receive more than 13 thousand students in their classrooms on September 1 when the school year was restarted in Cuba. The persistence of COVID-19 in the country imposed different demands that required a greater effort and responsibility, both by workers and families to ensure the health of all, in an adverse health context, where epidemiological surveillance is the main "Trump card".

Other significant moments for Isla de la Juventud were the months of August and October, which left abundant rainfall, associated with tropical organisms typical of the cyclonic season, which, although they benefited the accumulated water reservoir, affected telecommunications and electrical services, as well as plantations and seeds ready to face the cold season.

In food production, senior leaders of the Communist Party of Cuba, Government and State urged local authorities to stimulate proactive attitudes in favor of municipal self-sufficiency, based on the Economic-Social Strategy to boost the economy and face the global crisis caused by COVID-19.

The need to generalize good practices in the agricultural branch - viable alternatives because they are endogenous solutions - in the face of the impossibility of importing agricultural inputs due to the intensification of the economic, commercial and financial blockade of the United States to Cuba, challenges the capacity of pineros in 2021.

## After a year of health crisis, 2021 challenges the capacity of the residents of Isla

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