The green monkey or ‘Chlorocebus sabaeus’ is a monkey native to Gambia and Senegal in West Africa. It was distributed to Barbados over three centuries ago. While the green monkey has been an invasive species to the country, it has also contributed to its biodiversity and the population is controlled.

It is still being monitored in St.Kitts and Nevis in order to understand the monkey’s impact on biodiversity there. The green monkeys are devastating crops and putting pressure on native species.

The green monkeys have a severe impact on agriculture, they are responsible for high amounts of crop damage. The monkeys eat root crops, vine crops, and tree crops. They steal the eggs of birds and other fledglings, which impacts the local biological ecosystem.

They are territorial and wherever the troop moves and forages, there is always a defender.

CONTROL MEASURES

- Barriers can be applied to secure and protect crops from monkey damage. The full paddocks are a combination of saran netting, chicken mesh wire, and wooden posts.
- Guarding has been proven to be effective, but guards whether human or dog must be proactive. Human guards must be able to act quickly while dogs, often large breeds tend to scare the monkeys by their size alone.
- Crop Shields can be used to protect crops from further monkey damage, fruit can be covered in different stages of maturity.
- Protective bags (Onion, Pinnacle, Roberts bags) can be used to cover bunches of bananas.