

"WHEAT COUNTRY"

Between Meknes and El Hajeb lies a nearly level plateau 30 miles long and 15 miles wide. Here on the land's deep fertile reddish-brown soil live Morocco's most progressive and modern wheat farmers. These private farmers live on 500 to 800 acres, and have completely-mechanized their wheat production operations with tractors, plows, seeders, fertilizer-spreaders, spray equipment and combines.

Climatically, the land is blessed with near perfect wheat production weather. The past 33 year rainfall records show an average rainfall during the growing season (November to June) of 22 inches with a minimum of 15 inches occurring only 5 years. What is more, the typical rainfall pattern is: heavy rains in late November and December, dry in January, then heavy rains again in February and March, and tapering off with occasional showers in April and May. The month of January allows the soil to dry enough for timely mechanical application of weed killing chemicals and nitrogen.

For 33 out of the last 38 years, there has been enough rain to produce a good crop of wheat year after year on the same field.

Thus, here on over 300,000 acres of land are bestowed in generous quantities the ingredients that makes good wheat country: excellent soil and climate, private farms of economical size, and progressive owner management.

In over 20 years of work as a soils and cereals advisor in Tunisia and Morocco, never have I seen as good "wheat country," of comparable size. Look at it sometime when you drive from Meknes to El Hajeb.

Bill Davis

Meknes. March 1969

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JOINT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN PART I - WORK SCHEDULE		1. COOPERATING COUNTRY MOROCCO	2. PROJECT TITLE Increase in Cereals Production ^{1/}		3. PROJECT NUMBER 608-11-130-058	4. DATE (Month, Day, Year) March 23, 1970									
5. RESPONSIBLE PROJECT COORDINATOR Ralph J. Edwards		6. RESPONSIBLE COOPERATING COUNTRY AGENCY Ministry of Agriculture			7. COOPERATING SPONSOR Roms										
8. NO.	9. DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR ACTIONS OR STEPS	10. PRIMARY ACTION AGENT	11. TARGET DATES		12. TIME SPAN (Optional)										
			PREPARATORY ACTION	PHYSICAL START	PHYSICAL COMPLETION	FY- 70	FY- 71	FY- 72	FY- 73	FY- 74	FY-				
1	Recruitment of American Technical Staff	W/C		July 67 ^{2/}	Jan 70										
2	Training of Moroccan technical staff a) Selection and training of participants in U.S. and Mexico b) On-the-job training of counterparts, extension agents and research assistants	H/C/CC H/C/CC		Feb 68	July 74										
3	Project coordination by Wheat Committee a) Organization and planning for next year's program b) Implementation and supervision of annual program c) Analysis and review of activities and preparation of reports	H/C/CC H/C/CC H/C/CC		July 68	July 74										
4	Research Program a) Fertilizer levels, courses and related research i) Planning, preparation of materials and selection of sites ii) Land preparation, fertilization, seeding and management of trials iii) Harvesting, analysis and interpretation of results b) Production management research i) Planning, preparation of materials and selection of sites ii) Land preparation, fertilization, seeding and management of trials iii) Harvesting, analysis and interpretation of results	H/C/CC H/C/CC H/C/CC H/C/CC H/C/CC H/C/CC		July 68 July 68 May 69	Sept 73 July 74 July 74										
				Oct 68	July 74										
				Oct 68	Mar 74										
				April 69	July 74										
				Sept 69	July 74										
				Sept 69	Mar 74										
				April 70	July 74										

^{1/} This PIP also includes elements of regional project Wheat Improvement in North Africa, 698-11-130-173

^{2/} The Direct-Hire technicians were financed under Forage Development for Animal Production Project No. 608-11-130-044 from October 1966 until receipt of approval of Cereals Project in July 1967.

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JOINT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
PART II - SELECTED OUTPUT INDICATORS

1. COOPERATING COUNTRY
MOROCCO

2. PROJECT TITLE
Increase in Cereals Production

3. PROJECT NUMBER
600-11-130-058

4. DATE (Month, Day, Year)
March 23, 1970

DRAFT
 ORIGINAL
 REVISION NO.

5. CODE
(For AID use only)

IDENTIFICATION OF OUTPUT AND SPECIFIC TARGETS

7.	TIME PHASED ACCOMPLISHMENT							PROJECTED TOTAL
	TO DATE	FY-70	FY-71	FY-72	FY-73	FY-74	FY-	
Increase average annual wheat production by 50% from a level of production of 1,230,000 metric tons to an annual production of 1,800,000 MT by FY 74:								
Total production (MT)	1,600,000*	***	***	***				
Increase from Project (MT)	172,000	200,000	260,000	290,000	530,000	570,000		1,800,000 570,000
Expand the rational use of fertilizer and improved cultural practices for wheat production (annual coverage in hectares)	345,000*	400,000	460,000	510,000	560,000	600,000		600,000
Make credit available for farmer purchases of seed, fertilizer and equipment to be used in wheat production program (Dh. 000,000)	110*	**** 72	83	102	134	144		144
Expand area planted to commercial production of semi-dwarf and other adapted improved varieties (hectares).	-	30,000	100,000	200,000	450,000	600,000		600,000
Expand production of pure seed of improved varieties to supply program requirements (hectares)	5,000*	10,000	18,000	30,000	40,000	45,000		45,000
Train participants (No. completing training)	27	6	16	15	6	4		73
Conduct co-ordinated research programs in development of improved varieties, fertilizer requirements and improved management practices (No. of locations)**	10	25	30	30	30	30		30
Train farmers in use of good seed and improved production technology through farm demonstrations and other extension practices (No. of demonstrations)**	30	148	200	300	300	300		300

* In 1968-69
 ** Indication of size of activity but not a measurement of accomplishment.
 *** Represents production which can be measured realistically by increased production estimates in TVA report and PROP - No basis for revision at present time even though total production in 1968-69 exceeded estimate due to good weather.
 **** Represents level required for each year's program - Input to date exceeds this amount since not all previous credit has been repaid.