

PD-AAI-320

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John H. Sanders

Quarterly Report - October, 1981

Status of work to date:

A. Short term trainees

1. Returned

Maria José Calado Vila Viçosa Barrisco

2 months at various U.S. Universities studying animal reproduction (horses - one of the underrated potential development activities in the Alentejo).

January 9 - March 9, 1981

Victor Manuel Candeias Dordio

3 months at Iowa State and Purdue studying farm management and cost accounting.

May 30 - October 1, 1981

Maria das Mercês Cabrita de Mendonça Covas

2 months at Georgia studying Home Economics

June 15 - August 25, 1981

2. In progress

Artur Armando de Moura Marinho

3 1/2 months at Illinois working in a laboratory on animal nutrition
August 31 - December 20, 1981

Maria Leonor Pimenta Marques Verdete da Silva Carvalho

4 months at Purdue studying international trade and quantitative methods to analyse the regional impacts of entry into the EEC

August 23 - December 20, 1981



3. Leaving in winter 1981

Manuel d'Orey Cancela d'Abreu

3 months at the University of Florida to work on animal nutrition

Ana Maria Ferreira da Silva da Costa Freitas Pestana de Vasconcelos

4 months at Davis, California to work on wine quality and grape agronomy.

Maria Benedita Espanhol Gonçalves Cecílio

4 months at the University of Minnesota to work on the economic issues of the design of technological change in agriculture.

Maria Manuela Mota Baptista

2 months working in laboratories on chemical aspects of soil analysis.

4. Presently the English training program has 24 University professors, most of whom will be future candidates for training in the States.

5. Principal problem area:

Lack of comprehension by other agencies that at the present stage of development of the University of Évora the principal concern is sending off young professors as fast as possible to facilitate their training. There is little interest at Évora in the short term advisers as compared with this rapidly increasing demand to first upgrade the Évora faculty with training in the States.

B. Short term consultants

1. Dr. Robert Thompson

Specialist in international agricultural trade. Gave several seminars and interacted with Economics and Management. Concerned with the regional implications of entry into the EEC.

April - May, 1981



2. Dr. Charles Rhykerd
Forage agronomist. Gave lectures, consulted with staff in Agronomy and Animal Science, and visited various other institutions. Two weeks in July.
3. Dr. Jules Janick
Horticulturist. Gave lectures, consulted with staff, and travelled to other zones of horticulture production. The objective of the travel was not only to collaborate with other Portuguese institutions but also to obtain the background information to prepare a report on the relative importance and comparative advantage of the Alentejo in horticulture production.
One month in September - October, 1981
4. Dr. Dennis Johnson
Crop Geographer. To work with the agricultural land use survey and train staff in some of the latest techniques in land use planning.
January - February, 1982
5. Dr. Earl Heady
Agricultural Economist. Visited Alentejo as a consultant to the MAP in 1977 and will consult with staff and give lectures in farm management.
June 1982
6. Problem area:
The first two short term consultants apparently did not make trip reports. Since one of the principal objectives of this contract is to focus research in more applied directions relevant to farmers, the system is not working. More effective orientation at Purdue that a trip report is a requirement of the contract and a necessary input into program planning at Évora would be useful to overcome this problem. Dr. Janick made an excellent report now being distributed.



C. Activities of the long term adviser - March 9 - October 26, 1981

1. Most of these activities are covered in the monthly reports.
2. In the initial three months emphasis on knowing faculty, agriculture and supporting institutions in the Alentejo.
3. After intensive interaction with Évora faculty the operating plan for the University of Évora was revised, approved by Reitor and sent to AID and MEU. The emphasis of the plan was focused on maximizing various types of training for Évora professors. This revision was submitted to MEU in May.
4. Last month:
Orientation of four University professors in Economics and Management on applied research on agricultural technology and resource allocation.

D. Future Priorities for University Development

1. One of the biggest problems in new institutions is intra-disciplinary aggression. Professors retreat to the safe boundaries of their disciplines. Unfortunately, real problems in agriculture seldom come in nice, neat disciplinary categories. It is a painful but necessary process to get various disciplines working together. Open confrontation is preferable to backbiting hence the process will be bloody initially. Farm visiting is one of the best methods to confront professors with real world problems. However, it is generally more comfortable in the office or laboratory.
2. There are three priority areas for Évora in intra-disciplinary work:
3. A soil laboratory. The equipment is arriving. Collaboration between soil chemistry, soil fertility, and agronomy is essential. Besides collaboration between disciplines a service attitude towards farmers will be necessary. Perhaps a management committee including farmers



or at least other agencies such as MAP more directly representing farmers would be a mechanism providing internal pressures towards more service activities.

4. Animal nutrition research. With the dynamic leadership of Afonso de Almeida substantial progress has been made in Animal Science. Collaboration with Agronomy and Farm Management will be very important and is evolving.
5. Farm data collection. In the sophisticated, dynamic agricultural environment of the Alentejo it is almost impossible to do any research, much less extension planning without a thorough understanding of the farmers' technical and economic conditions. Collaboration is necessary between extension, farm management, and agronomy to better understand the technical, resource allocation, and financial decisions of various types of farm firms. This information is not presently available, difficult to obtain, and indispensable for regional development. Basic data has to be collected with intra-disciplinary collaboration.
6. A major push in these three areas is viable, utilizes outside resources and starts intra-disciplinary collaboration to confront real problems of Alentejo agriculture. In my opinion these three areas should be the major emphasis of the next year of the program.

E. Contract Areas in which little progress has been made

1. Teaching - Resource Center. Dr. Patrício of Évora is very interested in a workshop in the three institutions.
2. Collaboration with the Regional Planning Commission. Initial meetings have taken place but nothing concrete has emerged as yet.
3. I plan to put more effort on item 2 in the next three months. Outside help from other Purdue professor(s) will be necessary to respond to



Dr. Patrício.

F. Budget

The last budget from the UE administrator of the contract will be distributed later.