



PD-AAL-668
1500001/53

PURDUE UNIVERSITY PROJECT AID NE-G-1701
Monthly Report, September, 1982
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Continued organizational work for visit of Charles Rhykerd, James Outhouse, and the proposed two day seminar in Animal Nutrition and Production in the Alentejo for the end of November. As with the seminar in the Agricultural Development of the Alentejo this seminar will emphasis the research being done by UE professors and others in the region. Helped get three Évora participants ready for Extension Workshop, which was finally funded by PROCALFER and Universities - AID and is now taking place at Purdue and Wisconsin.

Spent day at Fonte Boa with Dr. Van Soest, who emphasized the need there for interdisciplinary research especially the collaboration between animal production specialists, agronomists (and economists - my addition). This type of interdisciplinary collaboration is critical in improving forage production and could offer a comparative advantage in research for UE. Fonte Boa will start doing economic analysis but still needs to get a full time research economist rather than having this done on a part time basis by their accountants. Many biological scientists consider the role of economists as being only in management rather than in research teams involved in research design and the analysis of results.

The two papers sent by UE staff members to Portuguese Economists Convention still need substantially more work. The LP study of the lower Alentejo is progressing well and producing some interesting results on income levels and labor utilization.

The second installment of 5,000 contos to support this program still hasn't been released. Of the 16,667 contos to be spent over four years of the contract only 5,000 contos has been released after over two years. We can't possibly accomplish the program goals if we can't get some quicker movement of the funds than this. UE has been trying unsuccessfully to get the next installment of 5,000 contos released since last February. AID - Lisbon has much more leverage in getting money from the central bureaucracies than we do but their attention is presently centered on PROCALFER. Meanwhile, this UE program could grind to a complete halt.

Good progress on bulletin on sheep stocking rates. Total budgeting with sensitivity analysis on price of hay giving interesting results. Need to finish this now and publish a bulletin on it as the results will be very interesting.

Intensive English course with Sandi Medeiros planned by Figueira and myself, approved and some suggestions made by the Reitor, and will begin in early October. Both Ramos (extension - Wisconsin) and Manuela Baptista (soils - North Carolina and others) got off to the States this month.

Spent a day visiting Almoçeva and Outeiro (UE farms in lower Alentejo) with John Foley, James Outhouse, José Avô and Maria Helena Estudante. Dr. Outhouse will be in Évora for three weeks beginning Nov. 22. J. Outhouse is a sheep management specialist and had many interesting suggestions for further research. Will be useful interaction with the Zootecnia Department.

Visit from Finberg and Trindade on construction. Still no benches and delay of construction for soils laboratory. This is the most completely frustrating problem of my time here.