



Intsormil

TRIP REPORT
PHILIPPINES
SEPTEMBER 26-OCTOBER 2, 1982

by

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Management Entity

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☆ International
Sorghum/Millet

☆ Collaborative Research
Support Program
(CRSP)

A Research Development Program of the Agency for International Development, Participating Land-Grant Universities, Host County Research Agencies and Private Donors.



Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources
University of Nebraska-Lincoln



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TRAVELER: Earl R. Leng, Program Director

PURPOSE: To discuss current and possible future cooperative INTSORMIL work, with the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Institute of Plant Breeding/University of the Philippines (IPB), the Philippines Council of Agricultural and Resources Research and Development (PCARRD) and USAID/Manila.

PERSONS CONTACTED:

Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Director-General, IRRI
Dr. Dennis Greenland, Deputy Director-General, IRRI
Dr. Johnny Pendleton, Head, Multiple Cropping, IRRI
Dr. R. K. Pandey, Fellow, Multiple Cropping, IRRI
Dr. V. R. Carangal, Coordinator, Cropping Systems Network, IRRI
Dr. Ricardo Lantican, Director, IPB
Dr. Sam Dalmacio, Leader, Sorghum Research, IPB
Dr. Jerry Maranville, INTSORMIL/Philippines
Dr. E. Luis, Department of Animal Husbandry, UP/LB
Dr. Frank Whisler, Fellow, IRRI
Dr. D. A. del Rosairo, Physiologist/IPB
Dr. Ramon V. Valmayor, Director-General, PCARRD
Dr. Crisanto R. Escaño, Assistant Director, Crops, PCARRD
Dr. R. J. Edwards, Assistant Director for Agricultural Development, USAID/Manila.
Dr. Edward Rice, Agriculture, USAID/Manila
Mr. Doug Clark, Agriculture, USAID/Manila
Mr. Benedicto Caballero, Officer-in-charge, Crops Research, Bureau of Plant Industry, Ministry of Agriculture/Philippines.

OBSERVATIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

1. IRRI. Cooperation between Dr. Maranville and IRRI workers in cropping systems is proceeding smoothly. A number of cooperative field experiments will be conducted in the "dry season", beginning in November. These will be both on wetland (irrigated) and dryland (rainfed) fields. IRRI officials expressed interest in continuing the agronomic cooperation for at least two more years. The pending departure of Dr. Pendleton introduces an element of uncertainty, since his successor has not been chosen, and discussions are underway on the future course of the multiple cropping research program.

IRRI officials strongly supported an early start on proposed INTSORMIL marketing research in the Philippines. They state, as do many others, that development of an orderly market for grain sorghum is essential to further expansion of this crop in the Philippines.

Preliminary discussions on the need for anthropologically-oriented farming systems studies also took place. IRRI is considering a proposal by a group of Dutch anthropologists to conduct such studies, in cooperation with the cropping systems network.

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2. IPB: Dr. Maranville is formally based at IPB, where he is considered a "Visiting Professor." He has begun several greenhouse experiments, cooperating with IPB sorghum researchers, and will take work to the field when the suitable season is at hand.

We discussed the possibility of Dr. Sam Dalmacio spending 6 to 9 months in the U.S., as an INTSORMIL post-doctoral fellow. This idea was enthusiastically received, but carrying it out will depend very considerably on INTSORMIL's continuing presence at IPB. The ideal plan, as agreed, would be to have one or more INTSORMIL senior staff members at IPB until about June, 1985. Dr. Dalmacio could then spend a reasonable period in the U.S. without causing the IPB sorghum work to falter. At the end of the above period, IPB would be well prepared to continue a cooperative sorghum program with INTSORMIL, without major INTSORMIL U.S. staff involvement.

3. Animal Husbandry, UP/LB: Dr. Maranville is cooperating with Dr. Luis, a recent Nebraska Ph.D., on a poultry feeding experiment, comparing high- and low-tannin sorghum grain, maize and treated (Butler method) high-tannin sorghum. Early results are somewhat puzzling, since the "high tannin" sorghum grown in the Philippines is not especially high in tannin content.

4. PCARRD: This central coordinating organization expressed pleasure at the level and quality of INTSORMIL cooperation thus far. Strong interest was expressed in an early start on studies of production and marketing economics. The Director-General wishes to sign a supplementary agreement, covering the proposed study. PCARRD will assist in the selection of Philippines participants and will provide stipends for work within the Philippines. INTSORMIL will cover international travel costs and stipends for work in the United States.

5. USAID/Manila: Dr. Edwards and his staff expressed approval of INTSORMIL activities thus far, in the Philippines, and for the planned economic studies. The Mission has just obtained approval for a new, long-term program of research on rainfed agriculture, for which PCARRD will be a major coordinating agency. The proposed INTSORMIL studies might have particularly valuable implications for this program.

6. Bureau of Plant Industry: A brief conference with officials of BPI indicated that interest in sorghum is not very strong in that organization. However, the reaction to proposed INTSORMIL activities was not negative. A seeds officer indicated that further information on sorghum seed production might be useful to BPI.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The proposed economic research should be approved, funded and begun as soon as possible (January 1983 is the target date).
2. INTSORMIL should actively seek a well-qualified agronomist to continue the research program begun by Dr. Maranville, at least through the 1984-85 dry season.
3. Plant pathologists and breeders in INTSORMIL institutions should consider possible programs for Dr. Dalmacio, in the March-September period of either 1983 or 1984.
4. Close contact should be maintained with IRRI, IPB and PCARRD, to insure that the present excellent cooperation continues.