



# Intsormil

TRIP REPORT

EGYPT

by

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University of Nebraska

December 4-10, 1983

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☆ International  
Sorghum/Millet

☆ Collaborative Research  
Support Program  
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Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln



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DECEMBER 4 - 10, 1983

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PURPOSE: To discuss cooperative research involving INTSORMIL and Egyptian institutes regarding sorghum improvement for both old and new lands of Egypt.

ITINERARY: December 4 - Travel from Rome to Cairo.  
December 5 - Visit USAID officials, EMCIP officials, and Egyptian scientists.  
December 6 - Draft workplan for cooperative research.  
December 7 - Present workplan to Egyptian officials and discuss necessary revisions.  
December 8 - Dr. Maranville depart for Lincoln; Dr. Eastin tour of the Nubaria area to the west.  
December 9 - Finalize workplan based on observations of the new lands of Nubaria.  
December 10- Dr. Eastin depart for Lincoln..

CHIEF PERSONS CONTACTED:

AID:

Mr. Arnold Radi, Administration  
Mr. Maurice Fleming, EMCIP coordinator  
Mr. Ray Forte, Administration

EMCIP Program:

Dr. Keith Roberts, U.S. team leader  
Dr. Boyce Williams, Sorghum and corn specialist

FIELD CROPS RESEARCH INSTITUTE:

Dr. Fahkry Fayed, Sorghum breeder  
Dr. Fayed Sidky, Sorghum and corn research leader  
Dr. Ahmed Momtag, Director, Agricultural Research Center

We arrived the afternoon of Sunday, December 4, and visited the agriculture sector of USAID at 7:45 a.m. on December 5. Mr. Maurice Fleming was acting in place of Mr. John Swanson, EMCIP coordinator, who was on leave. A brief review with Mr. Arnold Radi and Mr. Fleming brought us up to date prior to arrival of Dr. Keith Roberts, U.S. leader of the EMCIP program. Dr. Roberts concluded some brief business with Mr. Fleming and took us to the Agricultural Research Center (ARC) to a meeting scheduled with Dr. Boyce Williams, EMCIP Sorghum and Corn Specialist. The day was concluded with a project planning session with Dr. Fahkry Fayed and colleagues. Based on discussions regarding Egyptian research needs and possible INTSORMIL inputs,

Dr. Fayed proceeded to write a preliminary research proposal to be refined the next day. Attached is a current list of Egyptian administrators since a number of changes have occurred in the last year.

Tuesday, December 6, the written proposal was discussed by Drs. Fayed, Sidky, Williams, Maranville and Eastin. The discussion produced some changes. The input of Dr. Sidky, Corn and Sorghum Research Leader, was particularly useful. He also indicated a strong interest for physiological training for his staff. The second revision was made and an appointment secured to visit with Dr. Ahmed Momtaz, Director of the Field Crops Research Institute, to get his input on Wednesday.

Dr. Momtaz appeared to be in general agreement with the plan except that no provision had been made to consider the bird problem. Dr. Momtaz had some earlier discussions with a colleague who is an authority on bird predators (the falcon and chicken hawk). They will be discussing the possibility of increasing falcon and chicken hawk numbers enough for an adequate test perhaps as an addition to topics discussed earlier. The thrust of the plan primarily for research on reclaimed land areas (desert fringes) follows:

1. Drought resistance screening and water management.
2. Salinity tolerance.
3. Fertility studies on deficiencies of macro- and micro-nutrients.
4. Bird protection (hawks, falcons, chemicals) may be included in a separate proposal.

A Wednesday afternoon conversation with Mr. Ray Fort was encouraging in that a definite interest was expressed in supporting sorghum research when a project was worked through ARC channels. The method of handling research projects may be either through the new "sector" idea or perhaps still through the more traditional EMCIP type project approach. Dr. Keith Roberts indicated readiness to entertain the effort through EMCIP if that route appears to provide the best approach. Such an approach was not possible 2 years earlier.

Dr. Momtaz suggested a Thursday visit to both the western and eastern edges of the Nile delta. Time for a western visit (Nubaria area) was available but not to the east. Salt tolerance studies likely would be conducted on the Nubaria Station. Drought screening probably would work out well on the West Nubaria Agricultural Company farm Mariut. The Mariut Company is currently being used for yield testing and does have some nutrient problem areas. It also might serve well for the hawk-falcon testing site as it has a heavy population of field rats which consume grain in the heads in addition to traditional bird damage problems. The final stop was made at the New Rahiem Research Station used primarily for sugar beet testing with lesser emphasis on other crops for that new area.

The trip was very worthwhile in that more area was toured than on earlier trips. The amount of very light, sandy soils was lower than assumed from previous impressions. Many soils have useful quantities of clays. It still appears there is a place for trying residue management trials to quantitate effects of residue on evapotranspiration and water use efficiency.

Overall the visit appears to be potentially our most productive effort there. The outcome will depend on further development within the ARC and final determinations regarding sector versus project funding.

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Egyptian Counterparts to U.S. Team

Team Leadership:

Dr. Ali Serry	Director, Agricultural Research Center (MOA)
Dr. Mahmoud Abou-Zaid	Council Chairman, Water Research Center (MOI)
Dr. Abd El-Rehim Shehata	Deputy Director for Agricultural Research Center (ARC)
Dr. Abd El-Moneem Mahdy	Deputy Director for Agricultural Experiment Stations
Dr. Ahmed K. El-Rafee	Deputy Director for Agricultural Extension
Mr. Ali Nashaat	General Administrator, Agricultural Research Center
Mr. Mohamed Desouki	Undersecretary for Foreign Agricultural Relations
Dr. Hassan Mahmoud	Emeritus Professor, Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University
Dr. Bakeer Etteifa	Emeritus Professor, Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University
Dr. Mohamed K. Hindy	Former First Undersecretary, Ministry of Agriculture

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Dr. Ibrahim Anter	Director, Soils and Water Research Institute
Dr. Ahmed Momtaz	Director, Field Crops Research Institute
Dr. Mohamed El-Moghazy	Director, Cotton Research Institute
Dr. Ahmed H. Nour	Director, Sugar Crops Research Institute
Dr. Salah Bahaa El-Din	Director, Horticultural Crops Research Institute
Dr. Ibrahim Ismail	Director, Plant Protection Research Institute
Mr. Ibrahim Fouad	Director, Animal Production Research Institute
Dr. Saad Abd El-Ghafar	Director, Animal Health Research Institute
Dr. Said Abd El-Hamid Salama	Director, Vaccines & Serums
Dr. Ahmed Hassan Rakha	Director, Animal Reproduction
Dr. Abd El-Mawla Beshier	Director, Agricultural Economics
Dr. Ahmed El-Sahregy	Director, Agricultural Mechanization