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FAO Collaboration on INTSOY Training

John W. Santas

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March 1981

International Soybean Program, INTSOY

College of Agriculture  
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International Soybean Program (INTSOY)  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez

FAO/ROME TRIP REPORT

Name: John W. Santas, INTSOY Training Officer

Period of Travel: March 14-24, 1981

Itinerary: March 15-17 in Abidjan, Ivory Coast  
March 18 Abidjan to Ibadan, Nigeria  
March 19 and 20 at IITA, Ibadan  
March 21 Lagos to Rome, Italy  
March 22 and 23 Rome  
(Calls at FAO on Monday, March 23)  
March 24 Rome to Champaign

Purpose:

Coordination and discussion of FAO-supported International Training activities at UIUC, including the training component of the Sri Lanka Soybean Development Project. Also to discuss the role and involvement of FAO in INTSOY training courses both on campus and overseas.

Persons Contacted at FAO:

Irene M. Field, Senior Fellowships Officer  
H. A. Al-Jibouri, Senior Officer-Field Food Crops  
Heinrich Hablutzel, Sri Lanka Project Officer

Results, Accomplishments, Observations:

I briefed Ms. Field on the status and progress of the two FAO Fellows at UIUC whose administrative support is provided through my office. Those students are: Hilary De Alwis (Sri Lanka), who is on an M.S. program in Entomology and M. Moteane (Lesotho), who is on a Ph.D. program in Veterinary Pathology.

At the time of my visit, there was only one FAO Fellow confirmed for participation in the UIUC 1981 summer short courses. That individual was E. B. O. BALAH (Kenya), who will attend the Soil Fertility short course. It is possible that other nominations will be forthcoming, particularly for the soybean production or soybean processing courses.

Ms. Field and her office have never been involved in the programs of the two students currently enrolled in graduate programs under the sponsorship of the Sri Lanka Soybean Development Project. Those students are: Miss V. Sangerappillay, who is doing M.S. work in Food Science at UIUC and Mr. V. Arulnandhy, who is doing M.S. work in Agronomy at Texas A & M.

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My office has provided all of their financial, administrative and programming support. A major concern is how this support will be provided after the Sri Lanka Project terminates on June 30, 1981, because Miss Sangerappillay will not complete her degree until August, 1982 and Mr. Arulnandhy will continue until December of 1982.

Ms. Field suggested that it would be complicated, and perhaps confusing, for her office to assume responsibility for these students at this rather advanced stage in their respective programs. Mr. Hablutzel also expressed the hope that INTSOY could continue in the role of supporting these students until they have completed their degrees. It was agreed that I would send a letter to Mr. Hablutzel, offering to provide support for the students and giving estimates of the amounts of money required from June 30, 1981 until the completion of their programs. This would include: living allowance, tuition and fees, return transportation and all allowances normally given FAO Fellows, as well as the INTSOY administrative fee. My letter would ask FAO to commit this estimated amount of money and authorize the UIUC to disburse the funds and subsequently request reimbursement from FAO.

Dr. Al-Jibouri expressed the hope that INTSOY training will continue to be made available in South America and perhaps in Africa. His understanding was that in 1981 there will be another FAO-sponsored soybean production course in Panama to serve the soybean workers from that country; but if INTSOY and ICA present another course in Colombia in 1982, FAO would use that course to meet its needs for soybean training among Spanish-speaking scientists.

He also explained that it might be easier and more practical from his point of view for FAO to support INTSOY overseas training efforts by allocating a lump sum of money for use as we see fit, rather than their selecting and sponsoring participants. He mentioned \$10,000 to \$15,000 as an amount we might request. He makes this recommendation because FAO has few ongoing soybean projects that could contribute participants to such courses.