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U. S. Agency for International Development/Oregon State University project  
WEED CONTROL SYSTEMS FOR REPRESENTATIVE FARMS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES  
AID/CM/ta-C-73-23

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SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

January 1, 1973 through June 30, 1973

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Section A - Summary

A major reorganization of the project occurred during the period covered by this report. The USAID contract with Oregon State University, in force since 1966, was reaffirmed through establishment of a new project embodying new goals, new emphases, new organization and new operational sites. A broader approach to implementing weed control research and practices with the continuing intent of research to reduce the ravages of weeds on food crops and pastures of developing countries will include the socio-economic considerations of weed control techniques especially as they relate to the small farm. The initiation of the intensified project effort will be in the Northeastern region of Brazil and located at the IPEANE station in Recife. The first member of a multi-discipline team arrived in Brazil in late June, 1973, to commence project activities.

The project will continue operating in Central America, incorporating the new emphases into the existing program. Coordination for the new project will be through the Director of the Oregon State Agricultural Experiment Station.

**NEW PROJECT FOR  
WEED RESEARCH**

A new U. S. Agency for International Development/  
Oregon State University project for weed research in  
developing countries was launched on March 1, 1973, supplanting an earlier  
project that had been operative since 1966.

While research designed to solve the problem of weeds and the food  
crop production losses they engender remains the prime objective, increased  
effort will be directed toward the overall socio-economic framework in  
which a given weed control system may be applied. Future research will be  
designed to provide data relating to the relative benefits and costs of  
weed control to the farm community and associated labor pool, comparisons  
of alternative methods, and the implementation of an improved weed control  
system within existing farming structures. The work will incorporate  
broader review of established farming methodology and the impact of change  
through technology.

A continuing effort of the new project will be information dissemination  
and technical support to the world weed control research community. The  
new project will be coordinated through the Director of the Oregon State  
Agricultural Experiment Station.

**NEW PROJECT REGION  
BASED IN BRAZIL**

The primary weed research project region for the new  
research effort will encompass portions of Northeastern  
Brazil and will be headquartered at IPEANE (Northeast Agricultural Research  
Institute), Recife. An initial team of two weed scientists will be joined  
by an agricultural economist. While concentrating activities in Pernambuco  
State, the project team may also operate in the states of Alagoas, Paraiba,

Rio Grande do Norte, Piauí, and Ceará. Sorghum, corn, edible beans, cassava, and pastures are among the crops that will receive first priority for investigation.

**USAID/OSU TEAM VIEWS WEED PROJECT POTENTIAL IN BRAZIL** A 4-man study team representing the U.S. Agency for International development and Oregon State University

spent January 24th through February 3rd in Brazil assessing possibilities for cooperative research. The team concluded that the project could function in a positive manner in the Northeast of Brazil and that IPEANE offered very good facilities and support as a host institution.

The team was composed of: Channing J. Fredrickson, Project Manager, TAB/AGR., AID/Washington; and Dr. Stanley F. Miller (agricultural economist), Myron D. Shenk (weed scientist), and Herbert H. Fisher (weed scientist) of Oregon State University.

Meetings were held with Ministry of Agriculture leaders, the leadership of IPEANE, with members of the counterpart institution in the State of Parana, and with representatives of the USAID Mission in Brazil. The team also made several field surveys to evaluate field conditions and the potential benefit that improved weed control might have for Brazilian agriculture.

**USAID/OSU PLANNING SESSION HELD AT CORVALLIS** Representatives of USAID's Office of Agriculture, lead by the director, Dr. Omer Kelley, met in a

series of seminars and planning sessions in early April to formulate parameters and details of the restructured weed research program. Elements of a time-phased work plan were discussed as well as staffing, position activities, areas of research, and counterpart organizations.

In addition to project personnel, OSU was represented by Dr. G.B. Wood,

Director of the OSU Experiment Station and Associate Dean of Agriculture. 4

Dr. Guy Baird and Mr. Channing J. Fredrickson from USAID/Washington participated in the meetings as well as special USAID agricultural economics consultant, Dr. Lawrence Witt.

**WEED SPECIALIST  
VISITS RECIFE TO  
LAY GROUNDWORK**

Following the Corvallis review meetings, weed specialist and project member Herbert H. Fisher returned to Brazil (April 22 to May 12) for a final round of conferences leading to arrangements for the arrival of the project team a few weeks later. After meeting with USAID Mission personnel at Brasilia, Fisher moved to Recife for extensive discussions with members of the IPEANE staff and the U.S. Consulate, and also traveled into the interior of Pernambuco state.

Discussions at IPEANE centered on arrangements for office and laboratory space, identification of counterparts, transportation, and other aspects of the OSU program. Fisher was informed that several specialists from the University of Wisconsin (through EMBRAPA - Brazilian Enterprise for Agricultural Research), Utah State University, and FAO will also be headquartered at IPEANE (Recife).

IPEANE has three regional field stations in Pernambuco State, all of which pledged to cooperate with the weed research program. At least one prominent researcher from among the nine IPA (State of Pernambuco Agricultural Research Institute) research stations has also offered "to help in any way possible."

**WEED PROJECT  
CENTRAL AMERICAN  
REGION REVIEWED**

Dr. Arnold P. Appleby, Acting Project Director, and Channing J. Fredrickson, USAID/Washington, devoted three days in early May to a review of the weed project's

activities in Central America, primarily El Salvador. Discussions with USAID Mission personnel and ROCAP (Regional Office of Central American Projects) pointed strongly toward continuation of the project in Central America. The project has been operating in this region since October 1969.

Guadalupe Garcia, weed specialist and regional project leader, met with the review committee for a full range of discussions related to research, shifts in overall direction of the project, and publications.

**NEW PROJECT  
DIRECTOR NAMED**

Dr. Stanley F. Miller, an agricultural economist, has been selected to lead the USAID/OSU weed research project. Dr. Miller has spent a number of years in various professional capacities in Latin America and earlier served with the Economic Research Service of USDA.

**PROJECT PERSONNEL**

As indicated, Dr. Appleby served as Acting Project Director for the period covered by this report. Dr. Miller assumed the role of Project Director on July 1st. The following staff members were on duty for the period of January 1, 1973 through June 30, 1973. (The first two months of this period--an interim between contracts--were charged to Contract csd-1442; the last four months were served under the new contract, AID/CM/ta/C-73-23).

Arnold P. Appleby, Acting Director, appointed January 1, 1973.

Larry C. Burrill, Support Agronomist, at Corvallis.

Allan Deutsch, Information Specialist, at Corvallis.

Herbert H. Fisher, Research Agronomist, at Corvallis until June 14, when he left to report to Recife, Brazil, to establish the project in that area.

Guadalupe L. Garcia, Research Agronomist, Project Leader in Central America (stationed in El Salvador).

Georgena S. Knapp, Fiscal/Translation Specialist, at Corvallis.

Myron D. Shenk, Research Agronomist, at Corvallis, preparing for service in Recife, Brazil.

Delores Casanova, secretary in San Salvador, El Salvador, working for Mr. Garcia.

Georgann Dobie, secretary, at Corvallis.

Christabel A. Stearns, secretary, at Corvallis. Resigned April 25, 1973.

Frank G. Fraser, experimental biology technician, agricultural field man.

Myrna Wade, secretary on temporary basis, appointed May, 1973.

Janis Hoffman, student helper, January through April. Appointed on temporary basis in June to work on Fisher's bibliography.

Stanley F. Miller worked as a consultant in agricultural economics for the project at meetings with AID officials in Washington in January and at Corvallis in April.

#### PROJECT CONTINUES DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

As an integral element of project activities an active program of technical information dissemination was carried out during the report period. Over 100 inquiries from USAID Mission personnel, FAO and UNDP representatives, as well as researchers and educators in LDCs were fielded by Corvallis-based staff. Two issues of INFOLETTER were published and each distributed to approximately 3300 persons and institutions in 110 countries and territories. A total of over 750 copies of weed research related publications, published by the project in cooperation with the International Plant Protection Center at OSU, were distributed without cost to recipients mainly in LDCs. Printing of a full color weed seed identification leaflet was completed. The manuscript for an extensive identification manual, WEEDS OF CENTRAL AMERICA,

progressed into final form including slides and detailed descriptions (in both Spanish and English) for over 270 species of economically important weeds of Central America. Arrangements were completed for a second printing of TROPICAL WEEDS/MALEZAS TROPICALES.

**BRIEFS ON OTHER  
PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

Myron Shenk, weed research specialist, has continued involvement on a consultant basis for USAID/University of California, AID/csd 3296 on which he served as a member of the South American pest management team. The team was one of six groups that covered 35 developing countries....during March Dr. Appleby and Larry C. Burrill, project support agronomist, visited several developing countries in Asia to assess weed control research activities and establish stronger linkages with key weed scientists including personnel at IRRI (International Rice Research Institute) the Philippines. They also attended the Asian-Pacific Weed Conference (held in New Zealand) and the Indonesian Weed Society meeting where Burrill presented a paper advocating careful consideration of all aspects of various weed control methods....Larry Burrill also gave a presentation on the techniques of weed control in rice at the WARDA (West African Rice Development Association) meetings held at Monrovia, Liberia in late May....Allan Deutsch, project information specialist, was granted a one month leave of absence to serve as a consultant in communications to CIMMYT (International Wheat and Maize Improvement Center) in Mexico.

Section C - Budgetary Report

(see attached)

BUDGET SUMMARY  
FOR SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

Classification	Expenditures Previous Contract <u>4/1/72-2/28/73 (11 mos.)</u>	Budget Present Contract <u>3/1/73-3/31/74(13 mos.)</u>	Expenditures and Obligations <u>3/1/73-6/30/74</u>	Balances
Salaries and Wages				
On-campus	96,903.76	115,223	27,679.09	87,543.91
Off-campus	19,476.24	51,712	6,107.50	45,604.50
Totals	<u>(116,380.00)</u>	<u>(166,935)</u>	<u>(33,786.59)</u>	<u>(133,148.41)</u>
Payroll Assessments	11,462.85	20,032	4,395.00	15,637.00
Indirect Costs				
On-campus	75,520.82	54,650	13,128.18	41,521.82
Off-campus	19,099.57	16,610	1,961.73	14,648.27
Adjustment	(3,872.82)			
Totals	<u>(90,747.57)</u>	<u>(71,260)</u>	<u>(15,089.91)</u>	<u>(56,170.99)</u>
Consultants	2,433.78	3,500	1,195.00	2,305.00
Travel, Transp., Allow.	25,267.80	66,473	9,712.67	56,760.33
Other Direct Costs	5,015.94	12,125	1,117.20	11,007.80
Equip., Vehicles, Material and Supplies	<u>12,814.63</u>	<u>40,790</u>	<u>9,305.24</u>	<u>31,484.76</u>
Totals	264,122.57	381,115	74,601.61	306,513.39