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REPORT OF PROGRESS ON COOPERATIVE GUYANA AGREEMENT

USAID 211(d) GRANT ON TROPICAL RUMINANT LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION Consortium

July 1, 1974 - December 31, 1974

A major data collection activity in Guyana was undertaken by the various members of the 211(d) Consortium in Guyana during the first six months of 1974. Therefore, there was no in-country activity during the six month period covered by this report. Work was focused on the tabulation and analysis of data obtained during the first half of 1974, on the integration of this additional information into the modelling activities of Texas A&M and Purdue University, and on further development of the herd model by Texas A&M and the industry model by Purdue. As data tabulation, analysis, and modelling efforts progressed additional information needs were identified, and plans were made for additional field work in early 1975. Communication among Consortium members has been maintained through exchange of reports, direct communication for exchange of ideas and through Consortium meetings. Specific activities and progress of individual Consortium members will be discussed below.

Texas A&M University

Data collected on beef cattle production by J.M. Davis at Ebini, Matthews Ridge, and the Rupanuni supplemented by data from the World Bank Project have been organized. Data has been punched on computer cards. These data will be used to establish a basis for simulating alternative beef cattle production systems in the Texas A&M model. Data

were also made available to Purdue for use in development of production alternatives for initial runs with the industry model.

The Texas A&M herd model was completed to an initial stage and subjected to validation. Although the model performed well in the validation test, further consideration of actual production conditions in Guyana led to the conclusion to modify the nutritional component rather intensively and to make minor modifications in the reproduction component. The herd composition component did not require alteration.

Modifications to the model will be completed during the first half of 1975 and testing and validation of the model will be initiated. As soon as this step is completed alternative production systems will be evaluated. These simulations will be chosen to be feasible for Guyana and with parameters appropriate with the various regions of Guyana.

The veterinary personnel at Texas A&M concentrated on analysis of data obtained in their livestock disease survey in Guyana. Preliminary findings were organized into a report which was made available to other members of the Consortium and to Guyana. Work has continued on analysis of sample results and a final report will be forthcoming during the first half of 1975.

Tuskegee Institute

Data was punched on computer cards and tabulations made and organized into a preliminary report of findings from the livestock producer survey conducted in the summer of 1974. The questionnaire used in this survey had input from all members of the Consortium and was especially designed to provide data needed by Tuskegee in their work on sociology and extension, and by Purdue and Texas A&M in definition of production

systems. A preliminary summary of findings was made available to Consortium members and to Guyana. In addition, the raw data pertaining to production practices were made available to Purdue University for further analysis and incorporation into the industry model. Plans were made for a survey of livestock extension workers. This survey will be conducted during the first half of 1975.

University of Florida

A workshop was organized and conducted at Gainesville in August of 1974. The purpose of this workshop was to discuss the approach to modeling of forage production systems. Representatives from the four member institutions participated in the workshop. Tentative agreement was reached on the critical aspects of forage production and nutrient inputs necessary to represent livestock nutrition in the production systems for both the Texas A&M and Purdue models. Mott and Conrad, drawing upon Florida's prior experience in Guyana and in the tropics in general, have served as resource persons for Texas A&M and Purdue in their modelling of livestock production systems.

Purdue University

Emphasis has been on development of the industry model for Guyana. Data obtained during the summer of 1974 by Purdue, Texas A&M and Tuskegee as a result of field work conducted in Guyana were organized and used as a basis for structuring both production and marketing aspects of the model. Additional data needs were identified and plans made for more field work to be conducted in the first half of 1975. A conceptual framework for the industry model was developed and programming of the computer model was initiated. A sub project for economic

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Memorandum

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TO : Review Committee

DATE: April 5, 1976

FROM : TA/ACR, Leon F. Hesser

SUBJECT: Issue Papers on Four Universities

Issues raised in respect to the four Universities are common in many cases. However, a few are related to the particular special disciplines with which each of the institutions are dealing

Three issues are particularly significant to all of the participating institutions.

1. What are the institutions capability for effectively absorbing grant funds and at what funding level? this question is related to normal staff availability, incremental staffing and the question of incremental staff tenure.
2. What is the projected demand for consortium services? This is in part an issue for AID/W determination and poses a serious policy determination on extension, expansion, or phasing down of the current activities.
3. What will be the effect of Title 12 legislation in respect to AID's Foreign Assistance policies? Will 211(d) continue to be a part of AID programming or will the new legislation supplant this system.

The issues raised for guidance to the review committee do not preclude the development of by committee issues it considers relevant.



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ISSUES PAPER
Tuskegee Institute
Comprehensive Review -- 211(d) Grant
April 12 & 13, 1976

To develop U.S. institutional capability and competence in the husbandry of ruminant livestock in tropical areas, AID had made grants to four U.S. institutions. The four U.S. institutions agreed to cooperate (act as a consortium) in the development of a multi-disciplinary approach to research and technical assistance on ruminant livestock production systems for the wet/dry tropics. Among these is the 211(d) grant to Tuskegee, where the AID support has the objective of increasing the Institute's capability in designing and organizing systems to integrate and disseminate technical information on tropical livestock production. Among the features of Tuskegee which led to this selection by TA/AGR is Tuskegee's demonstrated commitment to assisting agencies working in the international community.

The issues raised herein relate primarily to the management of the grant, progress toward the objective, and Tuskegee's future directions and involvement with AID in the developing countries. More specifically, the issues intend to evaluate how the AID funds have been used to develop the Institute's capability as stated in the objective. Insofar as the present review is concerned, only those issues are raised which indicate possible inadequacies in progress or where discussions are desirable. Issues on non-problem areas are not raised.

For the purpose of this review, the issues must be considered in the context of tangible achievements (outputs or impact) vis-a-vis the magnitude of the funds expended,---not in the enumeration of inputs. The issues have been prepared in consultation with the TAB Grants Coordinator and are within the requirements for the Comprehensive Review as outlined in Grant Handbook 13, App. 2-C, and in compliance with Agency policies recently established by the Administrator in PD-62 (documents attached).

While these issues will be used by the Chairman in structuring the review, they do not preclude the discussion of other issues which the Review Committee and Tuskegee Institute may wish to raise.

Issue 1 - Has this 211(d) grant had a measurable impact on strengthening Tuskegee's capabilities in designing and organizing systems to integrate and disseminate technical information on tropical livestock production?

- a) Has there been an increase in staff time devoted to this subject?
- b) Has there been an improvement in staff competence relative to analysis of production systems and design of technology transfer systems? ~~Is~~ how is this measured?
- c) What progress has been made since 1972 in expanding library resources, in new graduate courses, in research and research linkages with national and international institutions?

Issue 2 - Has this grant enhanced Tuskegee Institute's capacity to provide technical assistance to LDCs?

- a) What advisory capacities exist now which did not exist at the time of the grant?
- b) What type of specialists could Tuskegee make available to work on the LDC problems?
- c) Has Tuskegee initiated policy changes that will permit utilizing the capability resulting from this grant?

Issue 3 - Specifically, in what way and to what extent did the survey of Guayano's livestock producers and extension service enhance the Institute's capability to design technology transfer systems model?

Issue 4 - Are grant funds being used to support activities not related to the grant objectives? Are grant funds being used to support activities which were already being carried out by the Institute prior to the grant?

Issue 5 - Have the consortium relationships among the four universities servicing these 211(d) grants proven useful in developing institutional capabilities in tropical livestock production? If so how, if not, why not? Do you feel comfortable with consortium relationships?

Issue 6 - How will Tuskegee continue to maintain the capability resulting from this grant? Will continuing support from AID be required to assure availability of this resource for animal agriculture programs in LDCs? What future direction and involvement is the Institute prepared to take?

