

PURDUE UNIVERSITY PROJECT AID NE-C-1701

Monthly Report, July, 1981

J. H. Atkinson, IUBI, Covilhã - Portugal

Following the completion of the Extension Workshop on June 26, Dr. Frist went to Vila Real for consultations with their extension personnel and departed Portugal on July 3. Dr. Pricer spent a few days with the Management group at IUBI, then he went to Évora where he met with both the Management and Extension groups as well as Dr. Sanders. In planning for future short term personnel, we should keep in mind the possibility of Dr. Pricer as a joint consultant for IUBI and the University of Évora. His interest, training and experience in small business development and management make him well equipped to serve needs in this area at both colleges. Dr. Pricer departed Portugal on July 9.

The Extension Workshop Planning Committee met at Covilhã. The group decided to publish a proceedings of the Workshop and made assignments for preparation of the text. They also decided to request each major organization represented at the Workshop to name a representative to serve on a permanent extension committee. The purpose of the Committee would be to plan and execute future activities of interest to the entire group of Workshop participants. One such activity might be to assist one or more of the three colleges in conducting an extension workshop for their staff and other local people involved in extension. Another activity which was discussed might be a workshop or a series of seminars in which both extensionists and researchers could participate.

The visit of the Minister of Education and Science on July 17 was a big day for the Institute and the city. I attended various meetings and social events. The occasion for the visit was the formal installations of the new "Comissão Instaladora" of the IUBI. The entire program of activities was well planned and executed by the rector and various staff members.

During the third week of July, I spent a couple of days at Évora. I presented a seminar to the Economics, Management and Extension groups and had the opportunity of visiting with Dr. Sanders and several staff members. One day was spent visiting the "herdades" of the college and seeing local agricultural production. In considering the research and demonstrations potential of these farms, we (Americans) need to be aware of some of the problems involved. In the first place, there still seem to be questions about the precise ownership rights of this land. Second, it is a formidable task to set up a decision making framework for the commercial operation of these farms and even more for research operations. On the other hand, it appears that useful input - output information could be obtained from the farm operating records. Dr. Sanders is familiar with these farms, knows the personnel involved and should be able to provide valuable assistance in research planning, record analysis, etc. at the appropriate time.

After leaving Évora, I took several days vacation in Algarve and returned through Spain. It was hot and dry!