

## PROPOSALS TO FACILITATE CO-OPERATION AMONG THE COUNTRIES

### Glossary of Animal Husbandry Terms

It became apparent during the Turrialba meeting that there was a definite need for a glossary of the animal husbandry terms used in English and Spanish, both to facilitate understanding of the more or less comparable terms used in the two languages, and to help in clarifying the meanings of the varying Spanish terms used in different parts of Latin America. This need found specific expression in a recommendation of the Baurú meeting that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations should consider the preparation and publication of such a glossary.

A similar need had been felt in Europe, and the Sixth International Congress of Animal Production, held in Copenhagen, Denmark, in July 1952, had recommended the preparation of a multi-lingual glossary of animal husbandry terms. Arrangements have been made between FAO and the European Association of Animal Production to co-operate in the preparation of such a glossary in English, French and German, following the recommendation of this congress.

A very substantial effort is required to produce a glossary even in one language, and the effort required for a glossary in two, three or four languages must usually extend over several years. To avoid duplication of effort, and in view of the fact that considerable progress had already been made on the English-French-German glossary, it was agreed at the Buenos Aires meeting that a number of governments in various geographic areas of Latin America should be asked to designate workers who are competent in the field and who could co-operate with FAO in the completion of the Spanish section, basing their work on the material prepared for the English-French-German sections with adaptations to include any special terms peculiar to Latin America.

In view of the many problems which must be solved in the preparation of a glossary, while avoiding making the task unduly large and the glossary too cumbersome, it seems desirable to give a brief account of these problems here. FAO has already gained considerable experience in the solution of these problems in the preparation of a multi-lingual vocabulary of soil science (Jacks, 1954).

The consultants to FAO and the European Association of Animal Production, and members of the FAO staff themselves who

have been giving attention to the detailed problems of preparing a glossary have become increasingly aware of the need for a glossary since no publication of this kind exists.

There are several dictionaries devoted to agricultural terms, but some of them are insufficiently exact. They do not cover synonyms, and they fail almost entirely to explain the nuances of different words. In a number of cases, words and phrases are used in one language which have no corresponding expression in others. In other cases words, which are very similar in different languages, have diverse meanings, and there also exist various synonyms for the same concept. All these differences require study and explanation. In view of this, it is considered that a dictionary which gives merely the corresponding words in various languages would be insufficient, and that a publication is needed in which at least parts of the concepts that could not be easily translated from one language to another are defined. It is felt that the work planned, if executed in the way outlined below, would contribute greatly to the uniformity of understanding which would, of course, be of great benefit to all workers in animal husbandry.

As regards the layout of the glossary, it was originally suggested that it should be assembled in alphabetical order, and not divided up according to subject matter, and with as many sections as languages to be included in the work. This would greatly increase the printing cost, however, and consideration has been given to an alphabetical index in each language to give ready cross reference to terms in other languages, arranged according to subjects. The view has also been expressed that illustrations and diagrams would facilitate the work, and would dispense with lengthy explanations in some cases. However, this would also increase the cost substantially. It has also been emphasized that explanations are necessary where the concepts are not clear, and when they are different in the various languages, as in cases where similar words have different meanings in different languages. If the corresponding word has a wider or more limited meaning, it might be indicated in italics. Where synonyms exist, these would be listed after the word indicated, and the country of origin where they are used would also be given where possible. More commonly used synonyms would be indicated in different type.

It has been decided that, at least for the time being, the work should be limited to the following fields:

- (1) animal husbandry in general (breeding, genetics, management, animal nutrition including grazing but excluding range management, organization of, and research in, animal husbandry legal terms, as far as they refer to animal production);

- (2) horse production, donkeys and mules; including, to a limited extent, the most important expressions referring to harnessing, but excluding technical racing and sporting terms;
- (3) cattle production (including buffaloes and dairy husbandry, but excluding dairy technology);
- (4) sheep production;
- (5) goat production; and
- (6) pig production.

In principle the following will be excluded:

- (a) all terms which can be easily found in an ordinary dictionary, and which could not be considered technical;
- (b) all terms referring to agriculture in general, and in particular crop husbandry and land and water use terms;
- (c) veterinary terms, including anatomy and physiology (however, such terms which are concurrently used in animal husbandry and feeding could be included to a limited extent — these terms which are in very close relation to the physiology of nutrition should also be included, as well as terms of physiology and anatomy which are most commonly used in regard to animal production), and
- (d) terms referring to the technology of processing of animal products.

Scientific terms should be included on a limited scale, and only those which are more commonly used in papers referring to animal husbandry. In general, explanation of such terms should be restricted as far as possible, and omitted for terms of basic science, such as pH, vitamins, antibiotics, etc. Scientific names in Latin or Greek or chemical names should be included to a limited extent. Chemical formulae should be employed only where essential in giving explanations.

### Literature Cited Regarding Glossaries

JACKS, G.V. Multi-lingual Vocabulary of Soil Science. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, Italy, 1954.

## Proposals for Further Meetings and for a Working Party and Sub-Groups to Facilitate Co-operation between Meetings

Inter-governmental co-operation on animal production problems is a relatively new undertaking. Various types of organizations have been developed to serve the interests of the livestock industry and national bodies for this purpose usually consist of professional workers in the animal husbandry and/or veterinary fields, who have banded together to enable them to exchange more readily information on the results of their research and to strengthen their activities in other ways. In some countries organizations of producers also occupy an important place in the livestock industry. In some instances, organizations are based on a combination of producer and professional participation. In one region, namely Europe, an association has been formed for the benefit of animal husbandry in all the countries of the region. This is known as the European Association for Animal Production, and it is made up of national organizations, one from each participating country. These national organizations vary considerably in their make-up, ranging from organizations of professional workers to producer organizations, and even to scientific organizations having broader academic interests. Still another type of international organization is the international congress. One example is the International Congress on Animal Production, which is now organized at intervals under the auspices of the European Association of Animal Production, and in which most of participants have been from European countries. Another example is the International Veterinary Congress. These congresses are essentially meetings in which scientists present papers on the results of their research and are not intended to serve as a basis for the development of inter-country co-operation at the government level. Two veterinary organizations at the inter-governmental level are mentioned elsewhere in this publication. They are the International Office of Epizootics, founded in 1924 with headquarters in Paris, and the recently established European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, which functions within the framework of FAO.

Thus, within the Kingdom of Pan, there has been a considerable exchange of knowledge and experience at the scientific level, but there have been few attempts to develop inter-governmental co-operation except those aimed specifically at the control of disease. Even at the scientific level a remarkable degree of isolation still exists in many parts of the world.

In an effort to facilitate the exchange of information among

countries, and to provide bases for inter-country co-operation where such co-operation would be mutually beneficial to two or more countries, FAO has organized a considerable number of technical meetings. These have usually been on a regional rather than a world-wide basis, and the three meetings held in a series at Turrialba, Baurú and Buenos Aires are examples. These meetings, held in various parts of the world, have given attention to many phases of agriculture, and the technical workers participating in them as representatives of their respective governments have generally welcomed the opportunities provided for the making of contacts and exchanging information with their colleagues in neighboring countries. There have also been numerous cases where these technical consultations have led to the development of inter-country co-operation on specific problems. One result of such meetings is a demand for some more formal type of organization to ensure the continuation of the contacts and the co-operative efforts arising therefrom.

This latter point is illustrated by the suggestion which arose from the Baurú Meeting that some type of organization should be considered for the continuation of inter-country collaboration on livestock production problems in the Americas. The Buenos Aires meeting, therefore, considered the various methods which might be adopted within the framework of FAO to achieve this objective. These methods include the following:

- (1) The formation of informal groups of correspondents, the members of which are designated for each country by their respective governments, to maintain correspondance with the appropriate staff members of FAO concerning developments in their own countries and to receive from FAO staff members and correspondents in other countries information that might benefit them and their colleagues in their work.
- (2) The convening of meetings at intervals to deal with specific subjects. For example, in Europe a series of eight annual meetings have been held to deal with hybrid maize and with the development of inbred lines for the production of hybrids. The series of three meetings on livestock production in the Americas held thus far is another example of this type of activity. No formal, continuing organization is involved and the meetings are convened by the Director-General of FAO after having been included in the Program of Work approved by the FAO Conference.
- (3) The establishment of continuing working parties which meet at intervals, usually annually or biennially, to deal with specific technical problems. The Working Party on Mediterranean Pasture and Fodder Development is an example

of this kind of activity. It differs from the series of annual meetings mentioned in item 2 in that the organization is somewhat more formal. Governments are invited to designate individuals to serve as continuing members of the Working Party and these members serve as contact points for correspondence and other activities in the intervals between meetings. Formal meetings of such working parties are convened by the Director-General in the same manner as meetings of the type mentioned under item (2).

- (4) Formation of committees of the Council or Conference of FAO. The membership in such committees may be open to a selected group of countries for a particular purpose, or may be open to all countries in a particular area. The European Committee on Agriculture, in which all Member Governments of FAO in Europe are invited to participate, either in its meetings or other activities recommended to the Director-General by it, is an example.
- (5) Formation of permanent bodies, such as the International Rice Commission, which are arms of FAO. The International Rice Commission is the only such body thus far formed in the field of agriculture. Twenty-six of the Member Governments of FAO, representing countries in all parts of the world where rice is an important crop, have adhered to the Constitution of this Commission. The present practice is to hold biennial meetings and to carry out most of the technical work through continuing working parties or *ad hoc* groups set up to deal with specific technical problems. The continuing parties in this case differ somewhat from those described under item (3) in that in most cases each government which is a member of the Commission is invited to send a representative to each meeting of a working party and individuals are not named to represent their countries on a continuing basis, although in many cases the same individuals come back to the meetings year after year. The work of the Commission, insofar as it involves time and travel of the FAO staff, is carried out under the Regular Budget of the Organization. However, provision is made in the Constitution of the International Rice Commission whereby governments may make special contributions for co-operative projects, of which the international rice hybridization scheme now in operation is an example, and
- (6) Establishing commissions or bodies as arms of FAO to carry out specific action programs, the only example to date in the field of agriculture being the European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease. This type of commission differs from the one described under item (5) in that

the participating governments agree to supply special funds to finance the work of the Commission, and it is, therefore, not dependent upon funds from the regular FAO budget, although some members of the regular staff of the Organization assist in servicing the Commission.

Representatives of the governments who attended the Buenos Aires meeting gave careful attention to the advantages and disadvantages of the various approaches which might be adopted to follow-up the Turrialba, Baurú and Buenos Aires meetings, and there was general agreement on the following points:

- (a) it would be desirable to have some continuing organizational arrangement to ensure regular contacts among livestock workers in the Americas and the ready exchange of information among these workers;
- (b) any organizational arrangement which might be developed for this purpose should be informal and should not require action by parliaments to bring it into effect;
- (c) full advantage should be taken of existing organizations, both to prevent the development of additional organizations unless absolutely necessary, and to take advantage of the technical competence of these existing organizations; and
- (d) the organizational arrangement which might be established should provide for technical consultation on a limited number of selected subjects, and at the same time include provisions for over-all consultation on livestock problems. Technical groups should be set up where needed, by sub-regions or by subjects, in such a way that the varied problems and environmental conditions in the Americas are fully taken into account.

With the above points in mind the representatives of governments assembled at the Buenos Aires meeting recommended that the Director-General of FAO should invite governments to participate in a continuing working party on livestock production to serve during the periods between livestock production meetings, in order to provide a continuing basis for consultation between the technical workers in countries and the staff of FAO between meetings, and for the co-ordination of preparations for meetings within countries, and that that working party's activities be carried on largely by correspondence. Governments should be invited to designate a representative who could speak for the over-all livestock and poultry interests of the respective countries, and who might normally be designated by their governments to attend periodic livestock production meetings convened by FAO at in-

tervals of approximately three years. This working party would consider over-all problems of livestock production, including poultry, in the Americas, and would also have placed before it for consideration the reports of any specialized sub-groups which might be formed. To meet the need for technical discussions of limited subjects, sub-groups should be formed where necessary. Such sub-groups might deal with a variety of problems including:

- (i) animal climatology, including improvement of livestock production in the high Andean area, and livestock improvement under tropical conditions;
- (ii) improvement of grasslands and management of livestock on grasslands in the temperate zones;
- (iii) improvement of grasslands and management of livestock on grasslands in tropical and sub-tropical zones;
- (iv) control of foot-and-mouth disease;
- (v) preparation of a Spanish section of the glossary of animal husbandry terms, and
- (vi) livestock and poultry nutrition,

and others as may be required. The delegates to the Buenos Aires meeting considered that it would be premature to make firm recommendations at that stage concerning either the sub-groups which should be set up or the period for which each such sub-group be established. They recommended, therefore, that following the establishment of the over-all working party on livestock production, FAO should consult the representatives designated by governments, and, on the basis of their recommendations, should then decide which sub-groups should be convened.

The delegates to the Buenos Aires meeting also recommended that the fourth meeting of the series, which had included the Turrialba, Baurú and Buenos Aires meetings, should be held in Jamaica in 1958.

Steps are being taken by FAO to implement these recommendations.