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SHAREHOLDERS IN DEVELOPMENT

**Japan
and
CIAT**

Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical
Apartado Aéreo 6713
Cali, Colombia

Japan and CIAT

Although located in a temperate zone, Japan is heavily committed to international agricultural research in tropical developing countries, as witnessed by the 1970 establishment of the Tropical Agricultural Research Center (TARC) in Tsukuba Science City.

Contributions of Japanese Scientists

Since 1979, three prominent Japanese research administrators have served on CIAT's Board of Trustees: Dr. Shiro Okabe, Director of ESCAP's CGPRT¹ center in Bogor, Indonesia; Dr. Ken-Ichi Hayashi, Special Advisor, TARC, Japan; and Dr. Chukichi Kaneda, Professor at Kobe University, Japan.

Twelve Japanese scientists have served, or are serving, on CIAT's scientific staff (Tables 1 and 2). Dr. Kazuo Kawano currently serves as breeder with CIAT's Asian Cassava Program based in Thailand. Dr. Masaru Iwanaga has headed CIAT's Genetic Resources Unit since 1989. In January, 1993, Iwanaga will become Deputy Director General of the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI) in Rome.

Dr. Kensuke Okada, seconded by TARC, studies the physiological mechanisms behind the adaptation of upland rice to South America's acid-soil savannas. This work will help breed acid-tolerant rice varieties and will improve the understanding of the interaction between roots and soils in the savanna ecosystem. TARC also seconded Dr. Norihisa Kitahara to work in CIAT's Tropical Forages Program. He will develop techniques to

1. ESCAP = Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.
CGPRT = ESCAP's regional coordination center for research and development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots, and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific.

improve the establishment of pasture grasses and legumes by incorporating fertilizer and seeds in pellets for simultaneous planting.

Five TARC scientists have so far collaborated in the long-term project between TARC and CIAT's Tropical Pastures Program to improve tropical grasslands.

Two young scientists, Dr. Yoshiaki Kano and Dr. Yukihiisa Ishizuka from the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), each spent 2 years at CIAT for hands-on training in cassava breeding and physiology.

Japan's Financial Contributions to CIAT

The Government of Japan began contributing to the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) in 1971, and is now the third largest of CGIAR's donors. The CGIAR is a "broadly based consortium that supports a world-wide network of agricultural research centres," of which CIAT is one.

Japan has also supported CIAT since 1977 and is a major shareholder in CIAT's activities. In 1991, Japan contributed US\$2,878,000, almost 10% of CIAT's budget, to support the Cassava and Tropical Pastures Programs. Since 1981, Japan has also invested \$1,671,000 in agroforestry research, an electronic microscope, cryopreservation equipment, the construction of quarantine greenhouses, and other projects and facilities.

Relations Between Japan and CIAT

To the world community Japan is a leader in natural resources management research and its funding. CIAT's strategic plan for the 1990s emphasizes natural resources management research, especially in Latin America, where the development of sustainable agriculture is key to the survival and well-being of millions of people. By increasing their collaborative activities, Japan and CIAT can contribute significantly to the common goal of sustainable agriculture in developing countries.

Table 1. Japanese scientists who have served on CIAT's Principal Staff.

Name	Dates	Program	Position	Work
IRIKURA, Yokio	1975-77	Cassava	Senior researcher	Cassava production systems
YOSHII, Kazuhiro	1977-80	Beans	Plant pathologist	Bean production systems
MAENO, Nobuyoshi	1977-81	Beef	Senior researcher	Improvement of beef production on infertile soil through improved pastures
HAYASHI, Haruo	1981-84	Tropical Pastures	Senior researcher	Improvement of tropical grasslands
SAWADA, Shinichi	1982-83	Cassava	Senior researcher	Cassava photosynthesis
KAWAKAMI, Toru	1984-85	Soybeans	Senior researcher	Research on soybeans
OGAWA, Yasuo	1986-88	Tropical Pastures	Senior researcher	Improvement of tropical grasslands
NADA, Yoichi	1988-91	Tropical Pastures	Senior researcher	Improving tropical pastures by using seed-coated "fertilizer pellets"

Table 2. Japanese scientists who currently serve on CIAT's Principal Staff.

Name	Date of joining	Program	Position	Work
KAWANO, Kazuo	1973	Cassava, Asia	Plant breeder	Coordinator of CIAT cassava research in Asia
IWANAGA, Masaru	1989	Genetic Resources Unit	Cytogeneticist, Head, Genetic Resources Unit	Head, Genetic Resources Unit
KITAHARA, Norihisa	1991	Tropical Forages	Pasture scientist	Improvement of tropical pastures
OKADA, Kensuke	1992	Rice	Physiologist	Upland rice roots in relation to adaptability to savanna soils

Compiled and written by:

M. Iwanaga
Head
Genetic Resources Unit
CIAT