

Summary

During the dry period between February 21 and March 2, 1985, researchers of the National Agricultural Research Center of Panama (IDIAP) and CIAT, collected samples of legume forage germplasm throughout different provinces in Panama.

On the trip 55 stops were made corresponding to topographical changes. At every stop data were taken on vegetation, soils, climate, and altitude above sea level. In total, 330 samples of forage legumes were collected and classified in 21 genera and 52 species. *Centrosema* was the predominant genus and within this, the *C. macrocarpum* species was found to have the greatest natural distribution, growing from 20 to 330 m.a.s.l. with precipitation levels ranging between 1180-4160 mm.

The genus and number of species encountered were: *Aeschynomene* (3), *Alysicarpus* (1), *Centrosema* (7), *Calopogonium* (3), *Clitoria* (1), *Canavalia* (2), *Crotalaria* (1), *Desmodium* (12), *Desmanthus* (1), *Dioclea* (1), *Flemingia* (1), *Galactia* (2), *Mucuna* (3), *Prosopis* (1), *Rhynchosia* (2), *Sty-*

***losanthes* (2), *Tephrosia* (1), *Teramnus* (1), *Vigna*/
Macroptilium (5), *Zornia* (1).**

The material collected was classified and is now being evaluated for adaptation characteristics at IDIAP, Panama, and the Tropical Pastures Program at CIAT, Colombia.