



**MAIN RESULTS AND PROSPECTS OF
COLLABORATION BETWEEN ARMENIA AND
INTERNATIONAL CENTERS FOR AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH**

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September 20-22, 2011
Tashkent, Uzbekistan

**Main directions of collaboration between Armenia and
CG Centers
2010-2011**

- Breeding and seed production;
- Exchange of best entries of wheat, barley, legumes and vegetable crops;
- Information and publication exchange;
- Financial support on capacity building for young scientists on documentation of germplasm entries and development of data bases; computer and language skills;
- Scientific publications.

Collaboration of Armenia with ICARDA and CYMMIT

- More than 16 324 entries of cereals and 2909 of legumes were studied within the joint program of ICARDA / CIMMYT and Scientific Center for Agriculture and Plant Protection (1998-2011)
- 4 varieties of winter wheat: “Armsim”, “Armic”, Van Aray”; 2 varieties of winter barley: “Sevan”; 4 varieties of copra cheakpea: “Acavan”, “Sisian”, “Lilit”, “Aliana” were released;
- 2 varieties of winter barley: “Alashkert”, “Vektva”; 2 varieties of soybean: “Menua”, “Milena”; 2 varieties of groundnut were submitted to the State Variety Trails Commission.

3

Collaboration of Armenia with AVRDC



- In 2006-2011, 269 varieties of 11 vegetable crops were tested at Center of Vegetable-Melon and Technical Crops in collaboration with AVRDC;
- From the 2008, totally 11 varieties, received from AVRDC, are being tested. In 2010, 2 varieties of tomato (“Janna” and “Zeytun”), 2 varieties of hot pepper (“Zspanak” and “Gita”) и один сорт sweet pepper (“Natali”). Additionally, 4 varieties of three pepper and one tomato crops were released in 2011.

4

Main priorities in agriculture of Armenia



- Conservation of gene pool of crops and their wild relatives;
- Development and release of universal, sustainable to unfavorable climate environment, competitive varieties of grape and fruit crops, enhancing technologies on vine and cognac production;
- Development of cost-effective technologies of crop growing, conservation and processing of fruits and vegetables; development of new fruit trees;
- Application of biotechnological progress in breeding and multiplication of plant and animal genetic resources;

5

Main priorities

- Development of new high effective and ecologically safe methods of pest control of crops and forest range, suitable for organic farming;
- Development and application of rational use of natural resources, conservation and improving soil fertility, melioration of saline soils, rational use of water resources.
- Gene pool conservation of livestock and poultry (in republic), improvement of their pedigree and reproductive characteristics, development of new feeding technologies and dietary, improvement of nutrition;

6

Main priorities

- Development and implementation of effective interventions aimed on prevention, diagnosis and treatment of infectious and contagious diseases, and ensuring food safety. Testing and use of new vaccines and drugs;
- Mechanization of agricultural production processes, design of small scale agricultural machinery, manufacturing and testing of prototypes, and development of a comprehensive program on engineering and maintenance;
- The study of basic economic problems of food security of the republic and introduction of progressive management methods in small farms

7

Problems and challenges of agricultural research in Armenia

- Restrictions of agricultural equipment, including small scaling machinery; fragmentation of agricultural land on small plots, low labor productivity, equipment of seed multiplication system;
- Lack of adequate food supply, lack of seed production of forage crops, reduction of pastures, limited resources for livestock development
- Degradation (salinization, mineralization) and soil erosion, decreasing of soil fertility, restrictions of crop rotation;
- Changing the water-salt regime on irrigated soils; arid climate; anthropogenic soil erosion; landslides increase, risk of loss of valuable gene pool of crops;
- Insufficient methods of desertification control; water scarcity; dryness of the climate.

8

Collaborative programs and solutions of problems in agricultural research

- Extension of cooperation in the field of seed production, plant protection and exchange of new technologies;
- Extension of joint research in the field of water and soil resources;
- Development of joint programs for the conservation of genetic resources;
- Extension and enhancing of research aimed on mitigation of the effects of expected global climate change;
- Support of national programs to address the specific agricultural problems.

9

Thank you!



10