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BEAN IMPROVEMENT
COOPERATIVE

A VOLUNTARY AND INFORMAL ORGANIZATION
TO EFFECT THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND MATERIALS

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Report of the
BEAN IMPROVEMENT COOPERATIVE

No. 28 March 1985

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THE XXVIII ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Bean Improvement Cooperative

The BIC meetings will be held in Portland, Oregon, and I hope many of you will be able to attend. Drs. Mok and Baggett have made excellent arrangements for us and could probably lay on some steelhead fishing if requested.

We will publish the proceedings of the papers presented at the meeting in the 1986 BIC Annual Report, This way they go to all the membership and libraries and are easier to quote.

Amy Dunham is now helping with the bookkeeping related to the BIC memberships, but Fran Van Kirk will continue to help with assembling the Annual Report. I would like to thank them for their good help.

You will notice that we do not have a bibliography. It has become increasingly hard to get people willing to prepare the bibliographies, plus the report continues to grow larger each year. Now that there are good bean abstracts prepared by CIAT it is not so important to include them in the BIC report. I would like to thank those who have prepared the bibliographies over the years.

I wish to thank Dr. Don Hagedorn for serving on the BIC Coordinating Committee for the past seven years and to welcome Dr. David Mok to the committee.

Michael H. Dickson
for the Coordinating Committee
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X 1985 BIC Meeting in Oregon X
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The 1985 BIC meeting will be held at the Red Lion X
X Inn at Lloyd Center in Portland, Oregon 97208. The BIC X
X program will be on November 5th and 6th and the NDBG X
X program will run concurrently with the Pea Improvement X
X Association on November 7. The prices are $55 (single) X
X and $60 (twin/double) per night. Limousine service is X
X available from the airport.

Make your room reservations directly with the Red X
X Lion Inn, identifying that you will be attending the X
X BIC meeting so that you obtain the group rate.

In July all BIC members will receive a call for X
X titles of papers and advanced registration information.

Arrangements are being handled by Dr. David Mok X
X (phone 503-754-3695) and Dr. Jim Baggett (phone X
X 503-754-3175), Department of Horticulture, Oregon State X
X University, Corvallis, OR 97331.

CIAT Book Update - Bean Production Problems

CIAT is planning to update and expand its 1980 review (English and Spanish) entitled, "Bean Production Problems: Disease, Insect, Soil and Climatic Constraints of Phaseolus vulgaris". Drs. H.F. Schwartz, M. Pastor Corrales and G.E. Galvez will edit the new version, and solicit your assistance in receiving pertinent reprints on bean production problems published since 1979. Please send copies of these reprints and suggestions for improved color illustrations to: Dr. Howard F. Schwartz, Dept. of Plant Pathology & Weed Science, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado 80523 U.S.A.
Call for Nominations for the BIC Meritorious Service Awards

The BIC membership is reminded that they should make nominations for the meritorious service award not later than July 1, 1985--to be sent to Dr. Donald Hagedorn, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706. Awards are made for "an outstanding single accomplishment or substantial high performance over a period of years". The nominations should be accompanied by a summary statement of approximately one typewritten page giving place of birth, academic background, and accomplishments.

BIC Awards Committee
George Emery
Howard Schwartz
Roger Sandsted
Donald Hagedorn, Chairman

*****

HONORS

Dr. Dermot P. Coyne, Professor of Horticulture, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, was elected President of the American Society of Horticultural Science at the annual meeting of the society in Vancouver, BC. Dr. Coyne received this honor for his active participation in the Society and we wish him well during his presidency. We will also welcome him back to active bean research when his year is completed.

*****

Beans of New York

The classic volumes on fruits and vegetable of New York were published in the 30's. This included the volume on Beans of New York which illustrates and gives the parentage and background of many old bean cultivars. Copies are available on request from M. H. Dickson, Department of Horticultural Sciences, New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, NY 14456.
The National Cooperative Dry Bean Nursery (CDBN) has been operative for 35 years and has grown steadily since its beginning. Originally, a few entries were grown at 8 to 10 locations with minimal data on maturity, seed size, and yield. During recent years up to 45 entries have been grown at 20 to 25 locations in the U.S. and Canada. More complete data of plant characteristics, disease reaction, harvest index, seed quality, and other attributes, has also been accumulated, thus providing more factual information to determine overall worth. Today's cooperators include breeders from both private companies and public agencies working with all major market classes of dry beans. The primary objective of the nursery is to provide breeders a means of comparing the performance of their advanced lines with those of other breeders and standard varieties. Test sites range from southern Canada to California and Arizona and include all major dry bean production areas except New York. This wide array of climates, diseases, and other environmental conditions provide an excellent evaluation of the overall adaptability of bean genotypes as well as identifying specific areas of adaptability and reactions to diseases not prevalent in the developmental area.

The mechanism for data generation is relatively simple. Breeders wishing to enter lines in the regional tests contact the coordinator, who will take the request under consideration providing that too many entries have not already been received. The breeder must also be able to furnish 30 to 60 pounds of seed, depending upon seed size, which is sent to the coordinator for distribution. This seed must be free of diseases (especially bacterial diseases) and must pass serological tests if it is to be planted in Idaho, Washington, and other states having quarantines. Each breeder who enters the test is requested to grow the nursery and collect performance data. These data are sent to the coordinator after harvest, who summarizes the results. These summaries are then distributed to all cooperators as well as others who have interest in the information.

A recent review of past CDBN reports has shown that nearly 50 new varieties were released in the past ten years that had been tested in the CDBN as experimental lines. I am convinced that the data generated by the CDBN was very influential in determining whether or not the entry would merit release as a new variety.


Bean Improvement Cooperative

Financial Statement

Balance on hand, March 30, 1984 $1900.19

Income

Dues collected 1894.00

From annual meeting for printing & mailing proceedings 565.17

Expenses

Printing 1109.93

Postage & duplicating 698.18

Typing 400.00

Balance on hand, March 6, 1985 $2151.25