

interaction with oil seed breeders during an IDRC Workshop in Kenya, there was a regional seminar in Zambia, and there were missions of staff members to Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zaire. With financial support by the Italian Government, we expect to start in 1989 a regional co-operative programme including research contracts, training and workshops. Regional co-operation with plant breeders in Latin America continues under ARCAL (Regional Co-operative Arrangements for the Promotion of Nuclear Science and Technology in Latin America). The 7th Interregional Training Course on the Induction and Use of Mutations in Plant Breeding at the Seibersdorf Laboratory again saw 20 participants from 20 countries, selected among 61 applicants. The Section was responsible for 45 Technical Co-operation Projects involving 70 institutions in 37 countries. 52 scientists completed their training under IAEA fellowships.

The staff situation at present is as follows:

At Headquarters:

Alexander Micke (FRG)	Head, Plant Breeding & Genetics Section
Mirosław Maluszynski (POL)	Technical Officer
Nobuo Murata (JPN)	Technical Officer
Lhamo Halgand (FRA)	Secretary
Kathy Weindl (CAN)	Secretary

At the Laboratory:

Thorsten Hermelin (SWE)	Head, Agricultural Laboratory, Seibersdorf
Frantisek Novak (CSR)	Head, Plant Breeding Unit, Seibersdorf Lab.
Helmut Brunner (AUS)	Technical Officer
R. Afza (BGD)	Lab. Technician
M. van Dören (NET)	Lab. Technician

Responsible for the Joint FAO/IAEA Division:

Björn Sigurbjörnsson (ICE)	Director
Leo LaChance (USA)	Deputy Director

RESEARCH NEWS



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Induced genetic variation for aluminum and salt tolerance in rice

MNH applied to fertilized egg cells of "Taichung 65" led to an increase in genetic variation in the progenies. Of a M₂ population of 15 000 seedlings, 2.3 % were scored tolerant to salt. Tolerant plants showed less shoot and root growth inhibition. 50 variants expressed different degrees of tolerance to Al, even up to 30 ppm. The tolerance was related to longer root development.

From: CHAUDHRY, M.A., YOSHIDA, S. and VEGARA, B.S., (International Rice Research Institute, Los Baños, Philippines). Environmental and Experimental Botany 27 (1987) 29-35 and 37-43.