# IDRC CRDICID

OIL CROPS:
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
THREE MEETINGS HELD
AT PANTNAGAR AND
HYDERABAD, INDIA,
4 – 17 JANUARY 1989

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Esta serie incluye ponencias de reuniones, informes internos y documentos técnicos que pueden posteriormente conformar la base de una publicación formal. El informe recibe distribución limitada entre una audiencia altamente especializada.

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# OIL CROPS: PROCEEDINGS OF THE THREE MEETINGS HELD AT PANTNAGAR AND HYDERABAD, INDIA, 4-17 JANUARY 1989

1. The Brassica Subnetwork-II

2. The Other Oil Crops Subnetwork-I

3. The Oil Crops Network Steering Committee-I

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# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL SAFFLOWER CONFERENCE HYDERABAD, INDIA FROM JANUARY 9-13, 1989

### V. Ranga Rao

The Second International Safflower conference was held in India, the world's largest safflower growing country, from January 9-13, 1989 i.e. a gap of more than seven years after the first conference in Davis, University of California, USA (July, 1981). The venue of the conference was the historical city of Hyderabad, the capital city of Andhra Pradesh located in the heart of the country's safflower belt. The conference was organized by the Directorate of Oilseeds Research (ICAR) under the joint auspices of ٥f Indian Society Oilseeds Research, a professional body of Workers engaged in Oilseeds research, development, processing, marketing and utilization various oilseed crops. A number of national international and like organizations International Development Research Agriculture Centre, Food and Cargil, MAHYCO. Organization, Indian Tobacco Company Limited and Bombay Oil Industries both from Public Sectors co-Private and sponsored the conference.

to the limited compared in the first participation οf number (total conference participants = 79), a large number of safflower growing countries in world (17) both from ancient centers of culture and recently adopted homes/centres in continents the five were in this conference; represented these include:

America: Canada (2), USA (૩);

Oceana: Australia (2);

Asia: Pakistan (3), Turkey (1), Iran (2);

Africa: Kenya (1), Tanzania (1), Morocco (11), Egypt (1);

Europe: Italy (2), Ul<. (1).

Dr. M. V. Rao, Special Director

General, icar, inaugurated conference. One of the highlights of the opening session on January was the presentation of a "Global note address key of Perspectives Safflower" world's renowned scientist and the safflower Dr. father of formerly Professor of Knowles, Eminence (Agronomy), University of California.

The deliberations of the conference were spread over 7 technical sessions and covered a wide range of aspects, viz., (1) safflower in different countries (2) genetic resources conservation (3) genetics and breeding (4) agro-production (5) agro-protection (6) marketing, processing, utilization and production development and (7) food chemistry and nutrition.

Besides these, the program also provided for two panel discussions on areas of topical interest, viz., development of hybrid safflower; current status, problems, prospects and future priorities/thrusts (10th Jan.) and global perspectives of combating diseases with specific reference to alternaria leaf spot; current status, approaches and priorities (12th Jan.).

The conference indeed elicited a good response. There were in all 66 presentations of which 52 were oral presentation and others in the form posters. The bulk οf the presentations referred to were in Session-I (16); III (15); V (8). The conference indeed provided for dood forum discussions and exchange of ideas, information and experiences facets of safflower various research, development, marketing, utilization processing, and production development

identifying future research thrusts and critical areas of interest for global cooperation.

Based on the five day deliberations the conference made a number of recommendations of a considerable global importance and also suggestions/strategies for the development of safflower in the future. These, interalia, include:

 Establishment of a global Safflower Advisory Committee on Genetic Resources with representation from major regions/centres of safflower production and genetic diversity.

The newly constituted committee consists of:

- 1) Prof. P.F. Knowles, (USA)
  Chairman
- 2) Dr. V. Ranga Rao, (India) Secretary
- 3) Prof. Dajue Li (China) Member
- 4) Dr. Hiruy Belayneh (Ethiopia)
  Member
- 5) Prof. A.Ashri (Israel) Member
- 6) Dr. R. Johnson (USA) Member

The conference empowered the committee to formulate its terms of reference in areas of relevance/interest, viz., coordination of germplasm acquisition and setting priorities for collection, organization of a network of active and base collection, establishment of a network of global data base including information on

- collection, characterization and evaluation, revision of descriptors list, establishment of strategic research priorities, identification of training needs etc.
- Setting up of an institute for all the neglected oil crops other than groundnut and soybean through the initiative and support of IDRC.
- Organization of international screening nursery and cultivar testing through collaboration and support of IDRC.
- Publication of updated hand book on diagnostic characteristics of various insect pests and disease of safflower through the support of FAO, IDRC and other funding agencies.
- 5. Documentation of available genetic resources in the world with the help of Directorate of Oilseed Research, Hyderabad.
- Bring out safflower newsletter with the support of FAO, IDRC and other interested funding agencies.
- 7. The conference resolved to hold the 3rd International Conference on Safflower sometime in July/August, 1993 in China (Priority-I) or alternatively Australia (Priority-II).