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SEMINARIO



ICARDA's Role in Agricultural Development in the Middle East Region: Issues, Challenges, and Research Strategies

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The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas, based in Aleppo, Syria, is one of the 15 worldwide centers of the Consultative Group on Agricultural Research (CGIAR), whose mission is to promote sustainable food production and improve livelihoods and human nutrition in the countries of the developing world. The challenges facing the world have never been greater and are accentuated by population growth and environmental degradation.

The Centers conduct applied research in all areas of agriculture related to development and collaborate with scientists of the mandate area of each center. ICARDA focuses mainly on agriculture in countries of North Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia, where limited rainfall and water resources are the main constraint to production. The presentation initially gives a broad outline of the CGIAR centers and how they address global issues, and subsequently describes the research achievements of ICARDA in the biophysical and social domains with emphasis on future strategies.



John Ryan holds PhD and D.Sc degrees in soil science from Ireland and an M.S in agricultural education from the University of Arizona. He has worked at the American University of Beirut, the University of Nebraska, and is Consultant Soil Scientist at ICARDA. His area of research is soil fertility and plant nutrition; his most recent concerns have been long-term crop rotation trials and nutrient dynamics. He has served as Chair of International Agronomy with the American Society of Agronomy and as Commission Chair for Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition with the International Union of Soil Scientists. He is a Fellow of ASA, SSSA and CSSA. He has received the Tri-Society's international awards in Soil Science, Agronomy, and Crop Science, in addition to the International Crop Nutrition Prize from the International Fertilizer Association and the IPNI Science Award from the International Plant Nutrition Institute.