

## REPORT ON THE PLENARY SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON TROPICAL ROOT CROPS SATURDAY, 8TH APRIL

After a short presentation to the Clerical Staff who assisted at the Symposium, the Meeting was opened and study group reports received. The Chairman thanked participants for the efforts taken in compiling these reports, and their adoption was carried unanimously.

The following motions were then tabled:

- A. 1. Whereas there has been a highly favourable international participation in the Symposium on Tropical Root Crops (ISTRC) sponsored by the University of the West Indies at St. Augustine, Trinidad.
2. Whereas there has been an expression by the various delegates attending the Symposium of the need for furthering the interest in research in tropical root crops, and
3. Whereas the papers presented by the delegates have been of valuable interest and contributed much to knowledge on tropical root crops, but there still remain many unanswered questions both in fundamental and applied research on this subject, it is hereby resolved that:
  1. The members of the Organising Committee, the Chairman and Secretaries of the seven (7) Study Groups and any participants in the present ISTRC who are willing to volunteer shall form a Continuing Committee to disseminate the information gathered at this Symposium to the various individuals attending as well as institutions, agencies and firms, who may put this knowledge to use for the furthering of production of tropical root crops;
  2. That said Standing Committee shall be empowered to solicit and choose the site of a second ISTRC to be held three years from now;
  3. That the host institution for the next symposium shall take on the responsibilities, both financial and administrative, of the second ISTRC counsel from the original Standing Committee.

Moved by: Dr. George Samuels

Seconded by: Mr. P. H. Haynes

This was carried unanimously.

- B. 1. Professor H. A. Steppler moved and Dr. D. J. Rogers seconded the proposal that the Chairman and Secretary of the Organising Committee should hold the same offices in the Continuing Committee.
2. It was agreed that the hosts for the second Symposium should volunteer by September 1967 in order that adequate provision can be made for this Meeting.
3. It was agreed that a newsletter be published which would incorporate list of names and addresses of persons working on the genetics and breeding of tropical root crops periodic bibliographies of recent papers, lists of stocks of material available for exchange, periodic summaries of the status of particular crops and short informative research notes. The wish was expressed that the scope of this would increase in time.
4. Support of the Symposium for Dr. Montaldo's bibliography was expressed and the need to extend and to complete this work was indicated.

- 5 Mr. Coursey (subject to the approval of his Directors) was invited to chair a sub-committee to deal with the establishment of an Information Centre for Tropical Root Crops.
- 6 Professor Mahadevan invited participants to use the U.W.I. Library at St. Augustine as a repository for information on tropical root crops.
- 7 The Continuing Committee was charged with the responsibility of finding a chairman for a committee which would be assigned the responsibility of investigating the possibility of establishing an International Research Institute for Tropical Root Crops.