Science for farmers and a better food future

CIMMYT...
• Is an international, not-for-profit research and training organization.
• Has partners in over 100 countries.
• Applies science to increase food security, improve the productivity and profitability of maize and wheat farming systems, and sustain natural resources in the developing world.
• Belongs to the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) (www.cgiar.org).

CIMMYT develops and shares...
• More productive and resilient maize and wheat varieties and cropping systems.
• Maize and wheat genetic resources, conserving in its germplasm bank 150,000 unique collections of wheat seed and 27,000 samples of maize seed, including the world’s largest collection of maize landraces.
• New knowledge and capacity.

International wheat breeding research is worth USD 2.0 - 6.1 billion per year in developing countries.

The hardness of CIMMYT-derived maize and wheat varieties reduces farmers' risk by an amount equivalent to USD 280 million each year.

CIMMYT un
The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center
A record of service and impact

- CIMMYT-related wheat varieties are grown on more than 64 million hectares in low-income countries.
- More than 20 million hectares in non-temperate environments of developing countries are sown to CIMMYT-related maize varieties.
- More than 10,000 researchers from around the world have benefited from CIMMYT training. CIMMYT alumni now lead major crop research programs, public and private, throughout the world.

CIMMYT locations

For more information:
The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (El Centro Internacional de Mejoramiento de Maíz y Trigo; CIMMYT)

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CIMMYT origins

Mid-1940s: Mexico invites an international research team to improve staple food crops—maize, beans, wheat, and potatoes.

1950s: Norman Borlaug, one of the researchers on the team, breeds shorter wheat varieties that yield much more grain and help Mexico attain self-sufficiency for that cereal.

1966: Mexico’s success leads the Mexican government, Rockefeller Foundation, and Ford Foundation to sponsor a new international research center for maize and wheat (CIMMYT).

1966-1971: India and Pakistan grow the new wheats, double their wheat production, and avoid famine. The Green Revolution has begun.

1970: Norman Borlaug, CIMMYT wheat breeder, receives the Nobel Peace Prize for his life-saving work.

CIMMYT funding

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