SCIENCE

to increase global food security, improve livelihoods and protect the environment

CIMMYT...

• Is an international, not-for-profit research and training organization.

• Works through partnerships in over 100 countries.

• Sustainably increases the productivity of maize and wheat systems to ensure global food security and reduce poverty.

• Is a member of the CGIAR consortium (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.

Improved wheat varieties from international research yield additional grain worth at least US $0.5 billion to farmers each year.

The hardiness of CIMMYT-derived maize and wheat varieties reduces farmers’ risk by an amount equivalent to $280 million each year.
A record of service and impact

- CIMMYT-related wheat varieties are grown on more than 60 million hectares in low-income countries.
- More than 20 million hectares in non-temperate environments of developing countries are sown with CIMMYT-related maize varieties.
- More than 10,000 researchers from around the world have benefited from CIMMYT training. CIMMYT alumni now lead major public and private crop research programs throughout the world.

CIMMYT offices worldwide

For more information:
The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (El Centro Internacional de Mejoramiento de Maíz y Trigo; CIMMYT)
Tel.: +52 (55) 5804 2004
Via US: +1 (612) 605-5205
Fax: +52 (55) 5804 7558
Email: cimmyt@cgiar.org
Internet: www.cimmyt.org

CIMMYT funding

Financial support for CIMMYT’s work comes from national governments, foundations, international development banks and other public and private agencies.

CIMMYT origins

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

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

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 wheat varieties, double their wheat production and avoid famine. The Green Revolution has begun.

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

Dr. Norman Borlaug (1914-2009) dedicated almost five decades to ending world hunger and to raising agricultural productivity in the developing world.