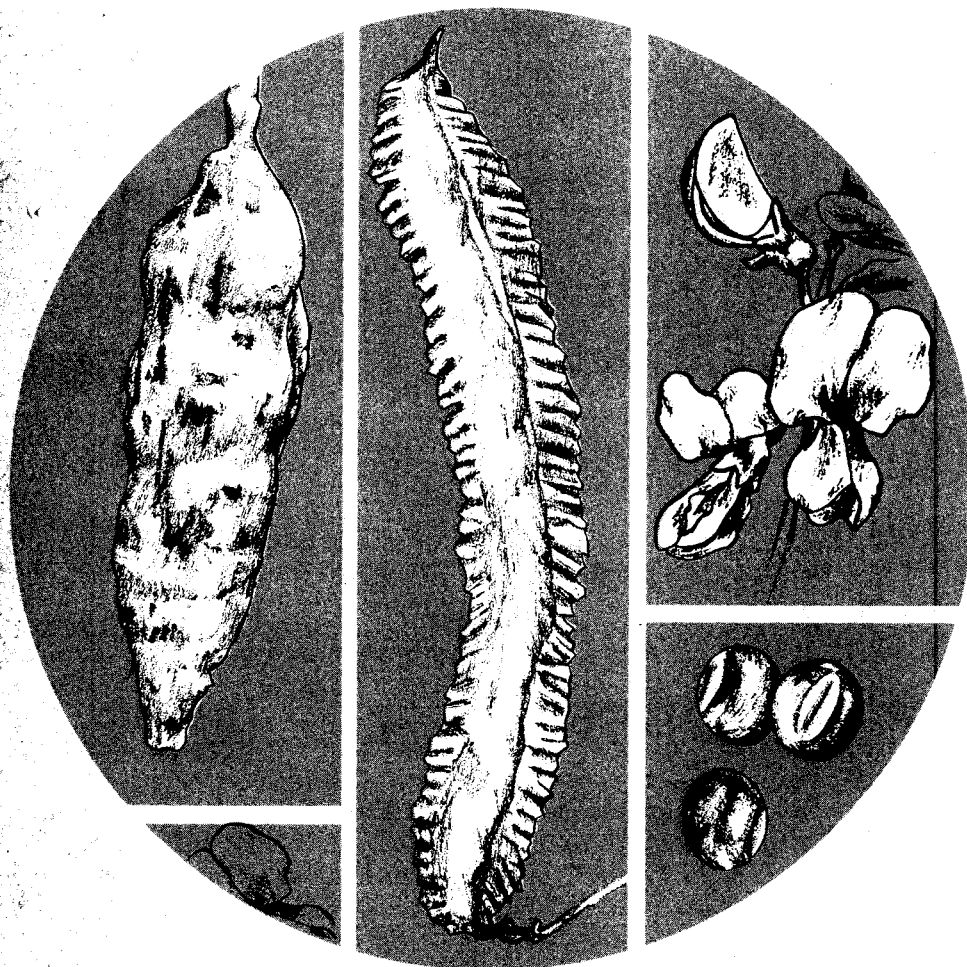


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The Winged Bean A HIGH-PROTEIN CROP FOR THE TROPICS

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES



The Winged Bean A HIGH-PROTEIN CROP FOR THE TROPICS

Report of an Ad Hoc Panel of the
Advisory Committee on Technology Innovation
Board on Science and Technology for
International Development
Commission on International Relations

Avec résumé en français
Con resumen en español

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
Washington, D.C. 1975

This report has been prepared by an ad hoc advisory panel of the Board on Science and Technology for International Development, Commission on International Relations, National Research Council, for the Office of Agriculture and the Office of Science and Technology, Bureau for Technical Assistance, Agency for International Development, Washington, D.C., under Contract No. AID/csd-2584.

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The members of the committee selected to undertake this project and prepare this report were chosen for recognized scholarly competence and with due consideration for the balance of disciplines appropriate to the project. Responsibility for the detailed aspects of this report rests with that committee.

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Third Printing May 1977

Addendum to The Winged Bean,
A High-Protein Crop for the Tropics

November 1978

Since this report was published in 1975, the winged bean has caught the enthusiasm of many people. The plant has now been introduced to more than 70 countries, its green pods can be found in several of their markets. Governments in both Indonesia and the Philippines have formally designated winged bean as a priority research crop and scores of researchers are working on its physiology and agronomy in laboratories all over the world.

Early in 1978, a winged bean conference was held in the Philippines, attended by some 200 delegates from 29 countries on 6 continents. More than 50 papers were presented, adding up to well over 900 pages of text. Rarely has so much information been collected in such a short time on such a little-known plant.

The result is that we now know much more about the winged bean than when this booklet was written. The book's overall thrust and balance are still sound; indeed, in most cases the new findings reinforce its claims. Nonetheless, a second edition, incorporating the new information, is in preparation. It is unlikely, however, that it will be ready before mid-1979.

Many of the addresses of researchers listed in Appendix A of the winged bean report are no longer current or relevant and should be disregarded. Among the scores of researchers working with the plant who could provide advice, and perhaps seed, are:

Herbert H. Bryan and Andrew A. Duncan, University of
Florida, Agriculture and Research Station, 18905 S.W.
208th Street, Homestead, Florida 33031, USA

Narong Chomchalow, Applied Scientific Research Corporation
of Thailand, 196 Phahonyothin Road, Bang Kahn, Bangkok
9, Thailand

Sam K. Karikari, Agricultural Research Station, University
of Ghana, P.O. Box 43, Kade, Ghana

Tanveer N. Khan, Department of Agriculture, South Perth,
Western Australia 6151, Australia

Louis Lazaroff, Director of Special Programs, The Asia
Foundation, P.O. Box 3223, San Francisco, California
91319, USA

Franklin Martin, Federal Experiment Station, Mayaguez,
Puerto Rico 00708

Russ A. Stephenson, Department of Agriculture, University
of Papua New Guinea, P.O. University, Papua New Guinea

Some recent articles on the winged bean have not indicated that it is a tropical plant. Although it will grow outside the tropics, it may not flower there and therefore may not yield pods or seeds. This is not caused by low temperature, but by the day length. Nonetheless, researchers have obtained good harvests in South Florida, and it seems likely that the crop will bear well in areas near the Gulf of Mexico and perhaps in the Southwest United States. It thrives in Puerto Rico, and winged bean pods can already be found on sale in Hawaii.