

FAO INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION NETWORK ON CACTUS



Preparatory meetings

1. Universidad de Guadalajara - Lagos de Moreno,
October, 1991

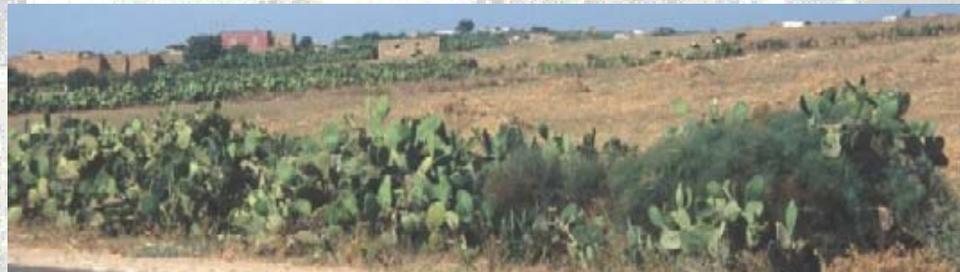
**1st International Congress on cactus pear and
cochineal**

2. Universidad de Chile - Santiago, Chile,
September 1992

**2nd International Congress on cactus pear and
cochineal**

OBJECTIVES

- To collect and disseminate information on production and planting, trade and markets, crop research, postharvest and processing and cochinilla on cactus pear.
- To cooperate in the collection, conservation, exchange, evaluation and utilization of germplasm and monitor progress and usefulness of such exchanges.
- To promote the ecological and social benefits of cactus pear.
- To develop new food and carminic acid uses.
- To exchange expertise and organize training courses, workshops and meetings of experts in order to improve technical capability in the individual institutions.



PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES



**Angola, Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil,
Chile, Cuba, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia,
Germany, Greece, India, Iraq, Israel, Italy,
Jordan, Morocco, Mexico, Mozambique
Pakistan, Peru, South Africa, Spain, Syria,
Tunisia, Turkey, United States, Zimbabwe.**



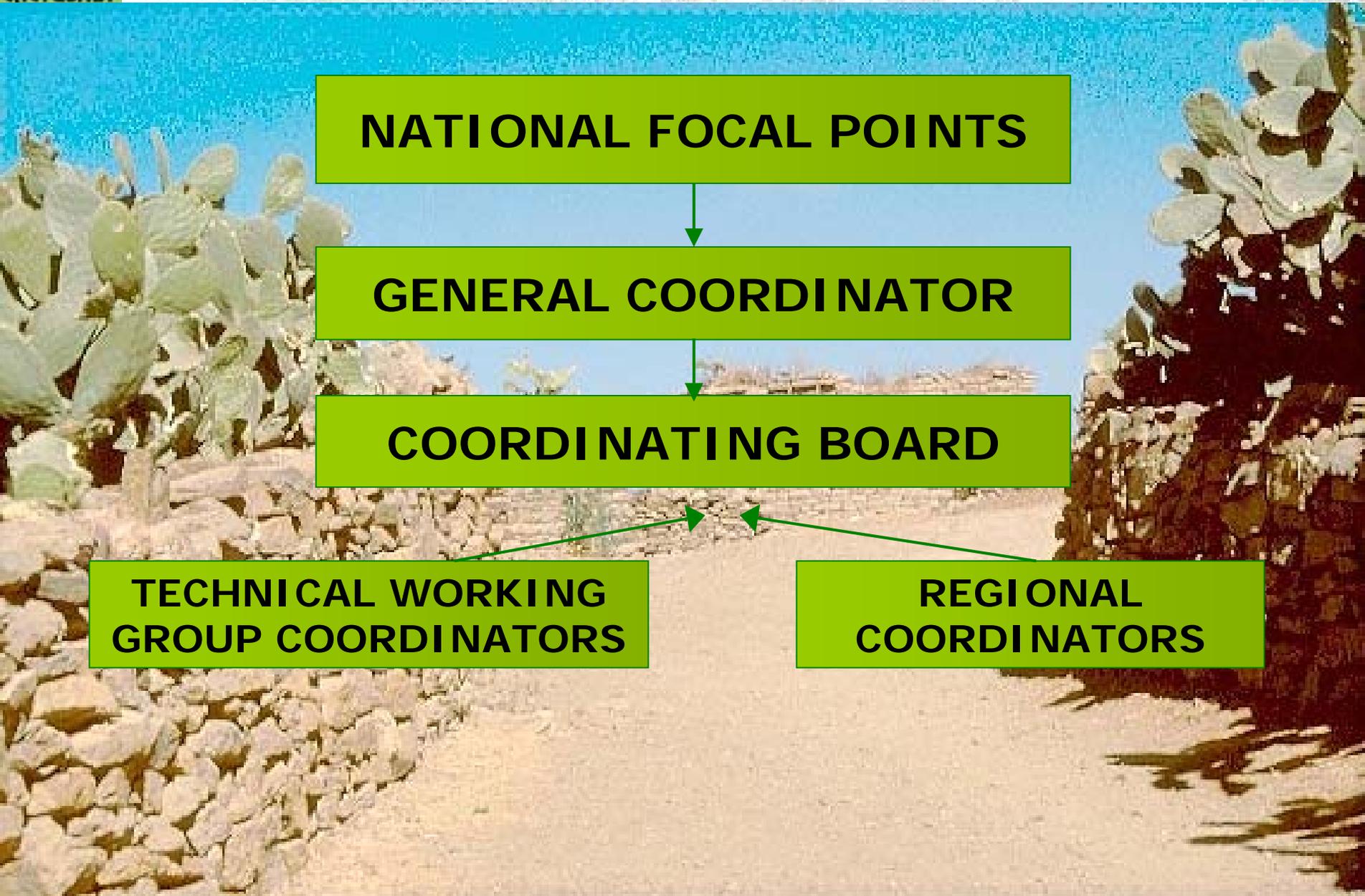
NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS

GENERAL COORDINATOR

COORDINATING BOARD

**TECHNICAL WORKING
GROUP COORDINATORS**

**REGIONAL
COORDINATORS**





GENERAL COORDINATOR

Dr Ali Nefzaoui

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REGIONAL COORDINATORS

South America:

Ing. Judith Ochoa, Universidad Nacional de Santiago del Estero, Argentina.

North America:

Dr. Jesús Fuentes, Universidad Autónoma Agraria Antonio Narro, Saltillo. México.

Mediterranean Basin:

Dr. Filadelfio Basile, Università di Catania, Italy.

Sub-Saharan Africa:

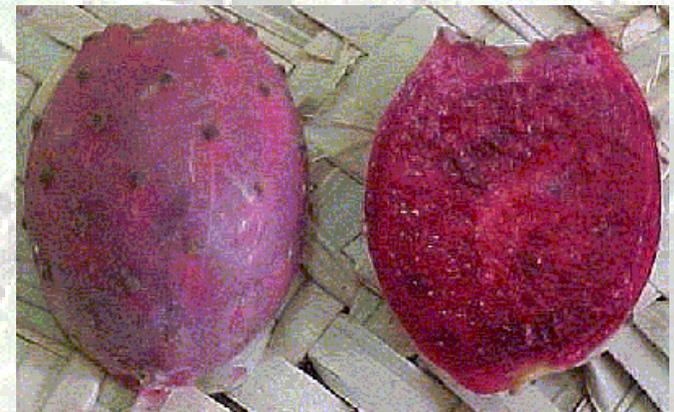
Dr. W. Swart, University of Cape Town, South Africa.

West Asia:

Brig. M.S.U. Cheema, DG ABAD, Rawalpindi, Pakistan.

WORKING GROUPS

- ‡ Cochineal (Mexico)
- ‡ Fruit Production (Italy)
- ‡ Forage and Rangeland (Tunisia)
- ‡ Agro-industry and Post harvest Physiology (Chile)
- ‡ Biology (U.S.A.)
- ‡ Plant Genetic Resources Collection, Conservation and Evaluation (Mexico)
- ‡ Pests and Diseases (South Africa)



FUTURE WORKING GROUPS

- ‡ Socio-economics and rural development (Mexico)
- ‡ Nopalitos Production (Mexico)

SUB-NETWORK

- ‡ Pitayas and pitahayas

ECONOMIC GROUP



ACTIVITIES

GENERAL MEETINGS

- 1st August 1993, Mexico - Creation of **CACTUSNET**
- 2nd December 1994, Italy
- 3rd January 1996, South Africa
- 4rd October 2000, Tunisia
- 5th India, Brazil, Argentina ?





ACTIVITIES

WORKING GROUPS MEETINGS

November 1995

Mexico (Productivity and Collection, Evaluation and Conservation of Genetic Resources)

August 1996

Peru (Cochineal)

September 1998

Chile (Post-harvest and Agroindustries)

May 2000

Mexico (creation of the sub-network on Pitayas and Pitahayas)



INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

January 1996 - R.S.A. - III International Congress on Cactus Pear and Cochineal and III General Meeting of the CACTUSNET

January 1997 - Peru - 1st International Festival on Cactus Pear and Cochineal

May 1998 - Peru - Nopal (*Opuntia* spp.): its use and application to combat desertification

September 1998 - Chile - Cactus pear and nopalitos processing and uses.

November 1999 - Angola - International Workshop on *Opuntia* spp.

October 2000 - Tunisia - IV International Congress on Cactus Pear and Cochineal and IV General Meeting of the CACTUSNET



OTHER EVENTS

September 1995 - Argentina - Round table "Problems and Perspective of Cactus Pear Cultivation in Argentina and Possibilities of Technical Collaboration with Producing Countries"

November 1995 - Mexico - VI National Congress and IV International Congress on Knowledge and Utilization of Cactus Pear

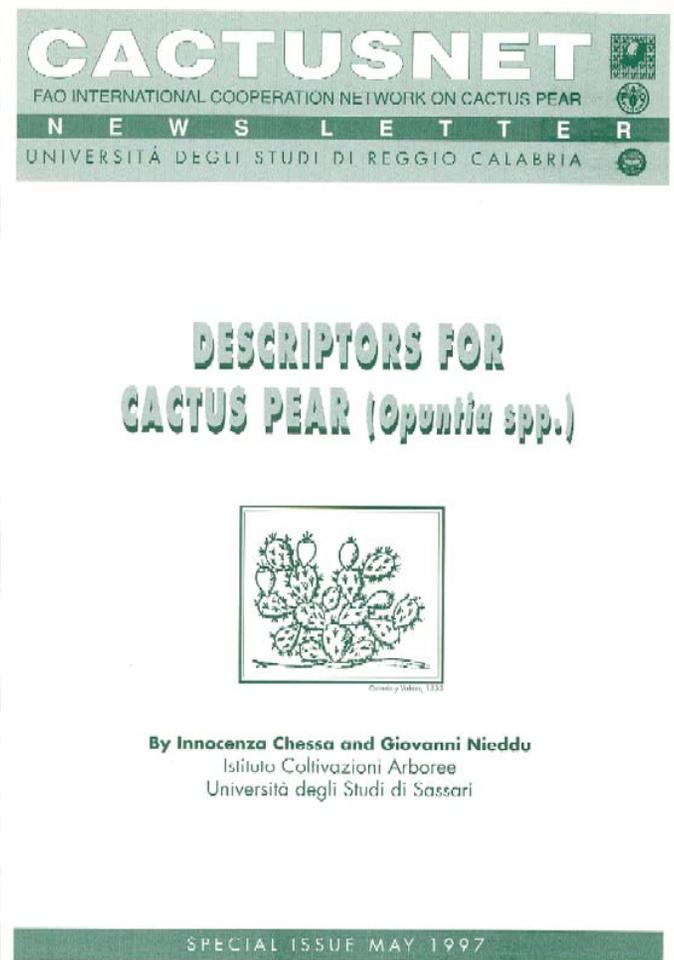
June 1996 - Mexico - Technical meetings "Use of Cactus as Forage" and "Applications of Biotechnology"

May 1997 - Italy - International Workshop on Promotion of Minor Fruit Crops: Cactus Pear

September 1997 - Mexico - VII National Congress and V International Congress on knowledge and Utilization of Cactus Pear

NEWSLETTERS

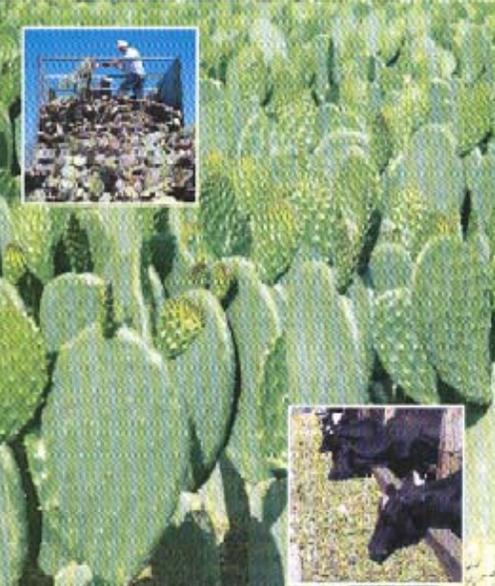
- 1 - Universidad de Guadalajara
- 2 - Università degli Studi di Reggio Calabria
- 3 - Università degli Studi di Reggio Calabria and Università degli Studi di Sassari (Descriptor)
- 4 - Universidad de Chile e Università degli Studi di Palermo (Agroindustry)
- 5 - Università degli Studi di Palermo and INRA Tunisia, (Forage).



PUBLICATIONS

Cactus (*Opuntia* spp.) as forage

ISSN 0209-2517
FAO
PLANT
PRODUCTION
AND PROTECTION
PAPER
169

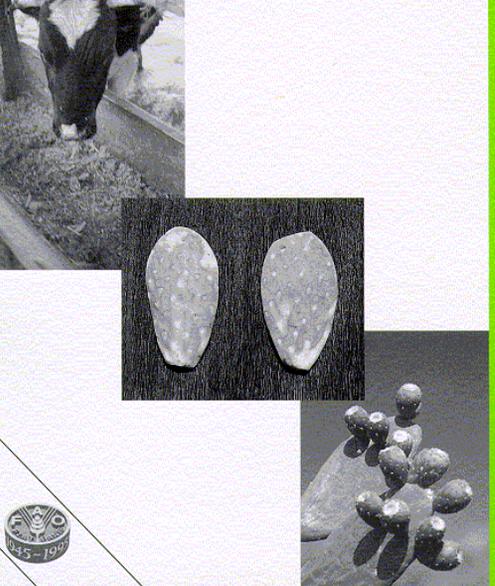


Forum
on
Sustainable
Utilization
of
the
New
World
Cactaceae



Agro-ecology, cultivation and uses of cactus pear

ISSN 0209-2517
FAO
PLANT
PRODUCTION
AND PROTECTION
PAPER
132



Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations




OTHER ACTIVITIES

-  Introduction of cactus pear clones for forage to **INDIA**
-  Introduction of cactus pear clones for forage and nopalitos to **ARGENTINA**
-  Introduction of cactus pear fruit varieties to **IRAN**
(FAO TCP/IRA/4557 Tropical Fruits)
-  Improvement of cactus pear cultivation - FAO
TCP/ARG/8821 Frutales de zonas áridas.



PROJECTS

-  - **ERITREA** Technology transfer of cactus pear production and utilization FAO TCP/ERI/8923-TCP/ERI/2802.
-  - **ETHIOPIA** Technology transfer of cactus pear production and utilization FAO TCP/ETH/2901
-  - Telefood projects in **ARGENTINA, CUBA, ETHIOPIA**



Other countries have expressed their interest in having FAO support through national projects: **Cuba, India, Namibia, Pakistan, Tanzania, Tunisia.**

FAO's SUPPORT TO CACTUSNET

- ✧ Horticultural Crops Group and Grassland and Pasture Crops Group of the Crop and Grassland Service (AGPC).
- ✧ Seed and Plant Genetic Resources Service (AGPS).
- ✧ Animal Production Service (AGAP).
- ✧ Agro-Industries and Post-Harvest Management Service (AGSI).
- ✧ FAO Regional Office for Europe.
- ✧ FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean.
- ✧ FAO Regional Office for the Near East.

MAIN GAPS

- 👤 Medicinal uses
- 👤 Marketing and trade
- 👤 Safe exchange of germplasm
- 👤 Regional collections/repositories
- 👤 Regional projects
- 👤 Collection and exchange of information on pests and diseases

- 👤 ASIA



**FAO INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL
COOPERATION NETWORK ON CACTUS**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

