

INTERNATIONAL GRAINS

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IGP center ground breaking *New executive conference center to be completed in one year*

International Grains Program (IGP) celebrates 25 years with the ground breaking of the new Executive Conference Center, a place where foreign business and governmental leaders will develop technical knowledge and skills that enable them to become more informed purchasers and processors of U.S. food and feed grains.

IGP courses also acquaint participants with current trends and issues affecting the industry.

The IGP, established by the Kansas legislature in 1978, has trained thousands of international grain industry representatives in its 25-year existence. "IGP strives to be a well-spring of training and information for international purchasers and processors using grains produced by U.S. farmers," said Brendan Donnelly, head of the department of grain science and industry.

"Today you can find IGP trained buyers of grain in literally every corner



Marc Johnson, dean of the College of Agriculture, speaks to the audience at the IGP Executive Conference Center ground breaking.

of the world," he added.

The money to build the IGP facility came initially from the Kansas Wheat Commission. The Kansas Corn Commission also made a significant contribution and a pledge for additional funds.

The new IGP Center, a \$4 million project within K-State's department of grain science and industry, will provide world-class meeting and instructional facilities. "With the completion of the new executive conference center in March 2004, IGP will be better equipped to meet the information, communication and training needs of the 21st Century," Donnelly said.

For more than 20 years, IGP has established a worldwide reputation as a center of excellence for international programs related to grain marketing,

and flour and feed milling processing and utilization.

Additionally, IGP has a rich tradition in training related to marketing, processing, purchasing and shipment of corn, grain sorghum, soybeans and wheat. The new IGP Center will allow the program to continue training international purchasers and users of U.S. commodities in a world-class facility.

The IGP Executive Conference Center is one of five facilities that will make up the Grain Science Complex, which will also include the Bioprocessing and Industrial Value-Added Program building; a grain science teaching and research building, which includes the bakery science and management program; a feed mill; and a flour mill.



Members of the Kansas Wheat Commission symbolically break ground for the new IGP Executive Conference Center.

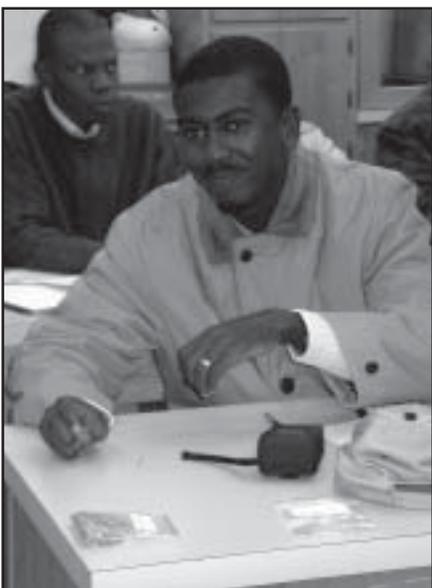
IGP organizes special short course for African poultry industry representatives

■ IGP began 2003 by offering valuable training to 20 individuals from Nigeria and Ghana. The short course was designed to address problems of the poultry industry in West Africa.

Prior to the IGP short course, the group participated in a short course held in West Africa. However, according to Michael David, a USDA agricultural specialist, that course did not cover all the basic problems facing the group. "When we got back home there was a need in the poultry industry to train feed millers in modern feed milling techniques," David said.

David contacted IGP and designed a special course held Jan. 13-21. The week-long course featured 20 presentations as well as a field trip.

David said the IGP short course increased the participants' understanding of feed manufacturing and how to use technology to improve their integrated poultry operations.



Kwame Asiedu Attrams, Ghana, participates in the grain grading exercise.



Eric Maichel (foreground), extrusion manager, explains equipment in K-State's extrusion lab. The participants were able to watch feed being processed from beginning to end.

"I saw the level of interaction. I saw the enthusiasm of the team members. They all tell me you have exceeded our expectations by leaps and bounds," David said.

A participant in the course, Tunji Fakoya, managing director of Unique Turkeys Limited, was quite familiar with Kansas State University and Manhattan, Kan. Fakoya received his industrial engineering bachelor's degree in May 1983 from K-State.

"I'm into turkey rearing back home in Nigeria now," Fakoya said. "They wrote a letter from the Embassy saying there's Cochran training short course and it's going to be Manhattan, Kansas. I couldn't pass it up. It's my alma mater."

Fakoya now works on his father's turkey farm and said the course helped him learn many things that will help him in his position. "It's been an eye-opener and so many things that have come to light," Fakoya said.

"All the faculty members are so knowledgeable and they passed on so

much information," he added.

The course also served as a networking opportunity between the participants. "I'm trying to look into pelletizing my feed," Fakoya said.

"Although, from what I see of the equipment, to get that for myself it may be too expensive, but I've met a colleague who happens to work for a pelletizing company in Nigeria.

"We've been talking and when we get back he's going to give me a price to pelletize my feed for me. If I pelletize my feed, it will give me 30 percent more body weight for the birds."

One of the participants, Olubunmi Alabi Idowu, is the feed mill manager for Obasanjo Farms Nigeria Limited, which is owned by Chief Obasanjo, the President of Nigeria.

The group traveled to the Annual Poultry Conference in Atlanta, Ga., after the course concluded. The annual meeting features equipment and supplies for integrated feeds as well as other educational opportunities.

A glance into the future

Quick facts about the IGP Executive Conference Center

WHAT IT IS:

The IGP Executive Conference Center is a place where foreign business and governmental leaders will develop technical knowledge and skills that enable them to become more informed purchasers and processors of U.S. food and feed grains. The program is part of K-State's department of grain science and industry.

COST:

The Kansas Wheat Commission and the Kansas Corn Commission have provided funds to build the facility. Fully equipped, the project will cost \$4 million.

CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION:

The facility will be nearly 20,000 square feet. Construction began February 17 and will take 12 months to complete. Project architect is Horst, Terrill & Karst. The construction company is Sunflower Builders, Inc.



An artist's rendition of the IGP Executive Conference Center to be completed in March 2004.

WHERE IT WILL BE BUILT:

The construction site is on the north side of Kimball Avenue, across from KSU Stadium and to the east of the Kansas Crop Improvement Association building.

INSIDE THE INTERNATIONAL GRAINS PROGRAM CENTER:

The facility will include a grain grading laboratory, conference room, tiered auditorium-style classroom, dining and lounge area, staff offices and other rooms that will fully meet and serve the needs of IGP's participants. The classroom will be equipped

for simultaneous translation for up to three languages and will include audio, visual and multimedia equipment for state-of-the-art presentations.

THE GRAIN SCIENCE & INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT COMPLEX:

The IGP Executive Conference Center is one of five facilities that will make up the complex, which will also include the Bioprocessing and Industrial Value-Added Program building; a grain science teaching and research building, which includes the bakery science and management program; a feed mill; and a flour mill.

Senior Turkish officials visit IGP during training mission

Several officials with the Turkish Ministry of Industry and Trade visited IGP on Jan. 20 during a two-week tour of U.S. corporations and government offices. The goal of the trip was to provide information regarding privatization within the agricultural economy. From January 8-25, the group visited New York, Washington, D.C., Tennessee, Kansas and Minnesota.

While in Manhattan, Kan., the group members learned about the Kansas Wheat Commission and IGP. Harvey Kiser, IGP senior agricultural economist, discussed the U.S. wheat marketing system and the U.S. wheat futures markets. Steve Peterson, general manager of Farmer's Coop

Association, shared a country elevator's perspective of pricing wheat to farmers.

The group was particularly interested in understanding the roles, responsibilities and interrelationships between private market participants and institutions to establish and implement laws and regulations that provide the parameters, standards and data needed for the commodity marketing system to function efficiently and effectively.

During the tour, the group met with officials from the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C. and Memphis, Tenn. to learn about the interactions between government agencies and warehouse receipt system.



A member of the Turkish delegation asks a question during his visit to IGP.

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IGP represented at national meetings

John Howard, IGP program administrator; Kendall McFall, IGP flour miller; and Harvey Kiser, IGP agricultural economist, promoted IGP at two national meetings.

The Commodity Classic, Charlotte, N.C., was held Feb. 26-March 1. The trade show is a joint effort between the American Soybean Association and the National Corn Growers Association. Final attendance for the event was 3,148.

IGP staff also attended the U.S. Wheat Associates' annual winter meeting, Albuquerque, N.M., Jan. 28-30. The National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) sponsored a trade show during the meeting.

IGP used the opportunity to meet with its five-state advisory committee Jan. 27. During the advisory meeting, Bob McClellan, Palco, Kan., was elected chairman for the upcoming year.



Amanda Niemann, daughter of Kansas Soybean Commissioner Lois Niemann, was the lucky winner of an IGP laser pointer pen during the Commodity Classic in Charlotte, N.C., Feb. 26-March 1.