



MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

JUNE 1955. Eight former graduates of Escuela Agrícola Panamericana took degrees from the University of Florida at graduation there on June 6th. We are happy to report that two of these boys graduated with "high honors" and one with "honors". Humberto Alvarez graduated highest in the class of eighty-two candidates for agricultural degrees, maintaining an average of 3.83 out of a possible 4.00. It is also of interest to note that all of "our boys" who took a degree from the University of Florida this June were above average for their class, a record which we hope can be maintained in future years.

The graduates were: Humberto Alvarez (Panamanian), Francisco A. Sierra (Guatemalan), Federico Malo (Ecuadoran), Roberto Jarquín (Guatemalan), Ligio A. Tavarez (Dominican), Antonio Lardizabal (Honduran), Bernardo Roehrs (Guatemalan, with degree in forestry), and Eduardo Jiménez (Costa Rican, with Master's degree in Horticulture). We, along with the boys, wish to thank Dr. Albert S. Muller, Counselor for Latin American Agricultural Students at the University of Florida, for the interest which he has taken in these boys.

Eight of our boys are on the admitted list at the University of Florida, to begin classes in September and to be candidates for degrees in June 1957. Three are Ecuadorans, three are Hondurans, one is a Costa Rican, and one is a Nicaraguan.

The prolonged dry season finally was broken during the early part of the month. The rainfall has been deficient, however, and that, combined with late beginning of the rains, may quite possibly show up in subnormal harvests here and elsewhere in the highlands.

Dr. Robert L. Pendleton's "The Place of Tropical Soils in Feeding the World," originally published in our journal *Ceiba*, will be reprinted in the "General Appendix of the Smithsonian Report for 1955". We think this is one of the best articles to appear on the place of the tropics in the world's food economy. Reprints are available to those requesting them.

Eduardo Jiménez and Francisco Sierra have returned from Florida and will both join our staff, Eduardo for the first time and Paco returning after a year leave-of-absence.

We are sorry to have lost Frank A. Carrico from our staff who, with family, returned to the States after two years here.

We have completed the first month of the new school year. The new class of 78 boys seems to be taking ahold well and adapting to a new life of work and study.