

The Subcommittee believes that biologists should be encouraged to make such collections available for preservation and that the Agricultural Research Service, in cooperation with other agencies and biological societies, should document such collections, and undertake to bring them into the NSSL as a phase of the IBP.

There should likewise be formed a working group on the preservation of genetic stocks. The group would advise on the merits of individual collections and on techniques of repropagation.

ANIMAL GENE POOLS

Because of the many barriers to movement of animal genetic material from one country to another, and the risks involved, an international study of blood is suggested as a means of identifying the location of genetic material and providing a base for future investigations on the use of these resources.

Seventeen countries have expressed an interest and are participating in such a program. The Subcommittee is proposing the development of a training center or centers for scientists of the cooperating countries.

THE THIRD DIMENSION OF FOOD

Food is usually appraised in terms of production and consumption. Less attention is devoted to utilization procedures, the vital intermediary link. This third dimension of food primarily involves the control of deterioration, waste, and losses.

There is in this respect the place for a concerted effort to collect reliable, adequate data on losses in plant and animal products and to gain an understanding of their causes. The subcommittee is proposing and sponsoring a special conference for review of methods to be applied in this area (see below).

This third dimension of food also encompasses the task of making plant products available to man's gastric system; removing deleterious components (ingredients) such as antitrypsin factors, antithiamins, and saponins; supplementing some commodities with key constituents; and eliminating nonedible portions.