

APPENDIX C:
PEANUT CRISP

THE PEANUT COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH SUPPORT PROGRAM (CRSP) OF USAID

In 1975, an amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 known as Title XII (Famine prevention and freedom from hunger) sought to "improve the participation of the agriculturally related universities in the United States' governmental efforts internationally to increase world food production and provide support to the application of science to solving developing countries food and nutrition problems." (Peanut CRSP web page, 2001). In 1979, USAID, which was established under the 1961 Act to expand agricultural research and development programs in developing countries, created the first Collaborative Research Support Programs (CRSPs) in collaboration with the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD).

The CRSPs are communities of Land Grant Universities working with public and private U.S. and international institutions. They pursue the international food and agricultural research mandate of the US Government. There are now nine CRSPs to benefit agriculture in developing countries and in the US as well. USAID, other institutions in the U.S. and collaborating countries fund them.

The University of Georgia, Griffin, manages the peanut CRSP, which was initiated in 1982. The goals of the program are to sustainably develop peanut production and marketing systems, to enhance human resources, to develop research and to facilitate the communication of its results. The objectives underlying these goals are:

- decreasing or eliminating aflatoxin contamination,
- improving production efficiency and sustainability,

- improving the post-harvest and marketing technologies to offer a nutritionally enhanced product,
- encouraging the development and the adoption of profitable technologies using training, information and program support.

The peanut CRSP is implemented in several regions of the world (West Africa, Southern Africa, Eastern Europe, South America, Caribbean and Southeast Asia). It is particularly active in West Africa where peanuts are one of the most important crops for development.