

IBSAR in progress ...*Editorial by S. Talhouk*

Administrative

Committee completes group identity document

Submission of IBSAR document to board of Deans

Meeting of IBSAR members with Provost

Establishment of IBSAR cost center

Development of password activated website

Retreat for strategic plan

Development of membership Guidelines

Development of logo and company identity

Election of executive committee and director

Meeting of executive committee with provost

Research

Laboratory and Field work

55 species collected from the wild

212 chemical extracts produced from plants

More than 12,000 bioassays performed to test for anticancer, anti-inflammatory, anti-microbial and pesticidal activities

24 species tested for domestication

10 M.Sc students recruited from different schools: 5 from FAFS, 3 FAS, 1 FM, 1BS

Theses completed

Screening selected plants against *Tetranychus urticae* and *Liriomyza huidobrensis* with solid phase extraction of *Meia azedarach*. M. Akkari

Preliminary market assessment of herbal remedies in Lebanon. G. Catacra

Characterization of potential anti-inflammatory bioactivities in selected indigenous medicinal plants of Lebanon. W. El Jouni

In vivo and in vitro antimicrobial activities of selected and indigenous medicinal plants of Lebanon. M. El Sharif

Immunopotential and antimicrobial activities of indigenous medicinal plants of Lebanon. V. Sagherian

Publications

Barbour et al. 2003. Impact of *M. officinalis* extract administration in broilers on immune responses to viruses and performance. JAHVMA.

Fund raising

10 Proposals submitted

5 Funds received:

-N. Hwallah 'Development of carbohydrate free bread and the effects of herbs' (25,000 USD)

- R. Talhouk, E. Barbour, M. El Sabban and F. Homaidan "Aqueous extracts with anti-inflammatory bioactivities from indigenous Lebanese plants: Insights into their mode of action in vivo and in vitro" (8,500,000 LL)

-N. Saliba, K. Bouhadir and S. Talhouk "Extraction and Characterization of Essential oil: A rejuvenated Approach for Agricultural, Economical and Industrial growth in Lebanon" (7,000,000 LL)

-H. Mohtaseb "Mechanismes Impliqués L'inhibition des Cancers Colorectaux par les Tannis Vegetaux .Effect sur des Lingnees Callullaires de Cancer du Colon" (8,257USD)

-H. Mohtaseb "Evaluation of Thymoquinone Effects against Colon Cancer" (65,809USD)

Meetings and seminars

Biweekly meetings scheduled for IBSAR members

7 Newsletters published

Seminars:

The eight step change process in a collaborative model for leading academic change. S.N.Talhouk

The economics of bioprospecting: a review of the literature and implications for developing countries. N. Kabbani.

Will bioprospecting improve agriculture and conserve biodiversity in Lebanon. R. Baalbaki and S. Talhouk

The antidiabetic effects of *S. trioba* on rats. N. Hwalla

Defining chemical profiling. N. Saliba and K. Bouhadir

Outreach

Guest speakers

An ecosystem approach to biodiversity. A. Farina. U. Urbino, Italy

Dichogamy in hydnora: sex lives of the strangest plants. L. Musselman. Old Dominion U. Virginia. USA.

Exploring sustainable greening: the use of native plants in amenity landscape. M. Quigley, OSU. USA.

The Production of Plant Made Pharmaceuticals in Transgenic plants: The Development of an Ideal System. S. Goldman, UT. USA.

Workshops

"Biodiversity Opportunities in Lebanon": focused on issues of interest to local industries using natural products, jointly coordinated with the Ministry of Environment. Consultant: J. Nasser (U.K.)(Attendance: 26 persons).

"Cultivation of wild plants": focused on production protocols and quality standards of wild plants with economic potentials. Consultant: M. Sanekli (Tunisia) (Attendance: 33 persons).

"Legislation and Biodiversity Opportunities: The Costa Rican Experience": focused on exchange of information and experience between the representative of the Ministry of Environment in Costa Rica and representative from INBio with Lebanese decision makers, lawyers and IBSAR members in relation to legislation, research and economic opportunities, jointly coordinated with the Ministry of Environment and Earth University Costa Rica. Consultants: J. Cabrera and E. Wo-ching (Costa Rica)(Attendance: 60 persons).

"Intellectual Property and Biodiversity: their impact on Legislation and Agricultural development": focused on the impact of Intellectual property and biodiversity on Legislation and Agriculture Development, jointly coordinated with Ministry of environment. Consultants: J. Dodds and A. Krattiger (Attendance: 18 persons)

Contacts and pending collaborations

23 nurseries
15 NGO's
8 farmers
3 pharmaceutical company
4 herbal manufacturers
2 orders
21 Pharmacies
30 herbal shops
4 protected areas
5 government organizations

Meetings, contacts & Seminars

IBSAR meetings. IBSAR meetings will resume in October 2003.

Retreat June 24, 2003. K. Abdallah coordinated a six-hour retreat for the elaboration of a strategic plan for IBSAR. After conducting focused group meetings with IBSAR members S. Chehayeb, J. Khayat and A. Lakiss (S.B. graduate) developed a working document which included vision, mission and objectives of IBSAR, an Industry analysis, definition of competitors, potential entrants, substitutes, customers and suppliers of IBSAR and SWOT analysis elucidating strength, weaknesses, threats and opportunities of IBSAR. Contents of the document were discussed at length and further elaborated during the retreat (updated document on the web).

Workshop: “Intellectual Property and Biodiversity: their impact on Legislation and Agricultural development” June 30 - July 1, 2003.

IBSAR in Collaboration with the Ministry of Environment invited Drs. John Dodds and Anatole Krattiger from SWIFTT (Strategic World Initiative for Technology Transfer) at Cornell University to address the impact of Intellectual property and biodiversity on Legislation and Agriculture Development and to provide Lebanese stake holders and decision makers with the proper background and thinking tools to revise draft law on access and benefit sharing of biodiversity in Lebanon.



The workshop consisted of plenary sessions and small group activities addressing both general issues of intellectual property and specific issues of accessing genetic resources and sharing the benefits of their use. In addition, the presentations covered examples of comparative legislation in other international case studies.



Working groups were exposed to specific case studies to debate technical and legal issues related to the development of a framework for an invention that has significant international commercialization potential. Specifically, the working groups discussed alternative strategies and options in terms of sequence, milestones, deliverables and respective roles, including further research, trials, market studies, valuation, licensing, investment IP

strategies, and relationship to existing and potential legislation.

The participants decided to meet for an additional one-day retreat to finalize the review of the working legal document.



Membership in IBSAR. M. El Sabban, N. Hwalla, and N. Kabbani prepared a draft proposing an organizational structure for IBSAR including guidelines for memberships.

The document was distributed to all members for their comments. The executive committee will further elaborate on the document this coming fall and submit it for approval by the members (draft available on the web).

IBSAR executive Committee

Fadia Homaidan



Nahla Hwalla



Hala Mohtaseb



Jala Makhzoumi



Nader Kabbani



Najat Saliba



Salma N. Talhouk: Director



