

STATE AND LOCAL

# 3rd world nations need help through research

By SUSAN MCDONALD  
Reporter

Helping the people of third world nations help themselves through research is the key to solving water and food shortages, an official from the Agency for International Development said to a crowd of about 250 in Rudder Theater Friday.

"Merely sending food to poor nations is not enough," said Nyle C. Brady to a crowd of about 250 in Rudder Theater on Friday.

Brady, senior assistant administrator for science and technology with the Agency for International Aid, said the United States cannot meet world food needs. And many countries cannot buy the food produced by the United States.

"We must help them help themselves," Brady said.

This can be accomplished with a three-part system, Brady said.

First is the "ribbon system." The ribbon symbolizes the problems that most nations have in common, Brady said.

Second, support can be given to countries who need immediate help. And third, universities can train individuals to do research, he said.

"We can train the Africans to do research themselves through universities," Brady said. "These countries

are better able to build their own water storage facilities. They need help with little things — not big things such as dams."

Research into areas such as crop breeding, irrigation and water management is essential to helping these nations, he said. However, what may work in one country may not work in another.

"We cannot assume that you can transfer technology from one country to another, but you can transfer the techniques used to develop them," Brady said.

Development in the private sector is also important. Responsibility for development should be taken away from the government and put into the hands of the people, Brady said.

Because of a low mortality rate and high birth rate, food and water are scarce in underdeveloped nations.

"Food production is our number one concern," Brady said. "And there is no other single factor that is more critical for the production of food than water. It is essential to agriculture. You can't have one without the other."

Third world people are uneducated about water management, which is the central cause for the present water crisis.

Effective management could reduce water salinity and soil erosion, Brady said.

Because many of these people are nomadic, it is difficult for them to put time and money into soil and water conservation.

"Group education is the key here, if the situation is to be changed," Brady said.

Two-thirds of the population of underdeveloped nations do not have access to a safe water supply, he said. This is a serious health hazard in third world nations.

"More than five million children die each year from dehydration associated with diarrhea from bad water," Brady said.

"We must strive to improve their existing water systems instead of making new ones."

This can be accomplished by building teaching and research facilities, branches of U.S. universities, in the third world nations, he said.

Africa, South America and India already have agricultural universities.

Universities in the United States are already helping, Brady said. Faculty from universities spend about three years in an underdeveloped nation. When they return, they share their experiences with the stu-



Nyle C. Brady

dents and university staff.

"This is most helpful to both universities and to AID (the Agency for International Development) offices," Brady said.

Texas A&M has made substantial achievements in research on peanuts, tropical soil and soil remnants.

The AID has "moderately increased its support for research," Brady said.

In 1983, \$158 million was allotted for research. In 1984, \$227 million was given to research and \$336 million is planned for 1985.

"We must help these people develop their own technology for food production, ecology and energy uses," Brady said. "This will provide greater benefits — more and better food and better use of cleaner water."

# Florida freeze could benefit Texas growers

Associated Press

McALLEN — A disastrous freeze that devastated Florida citrus crops could be a long-awaited blessing to Texas citrus farmers, who are still trying to overcome a killing freeze last winter, industry officials say.

Florida's freeze — described as the worst in a century — should be a "big shot in the arm" for Texas, said Ray Prewett, a spokesman for Texas Citrus Mutual, a growers' association.

A killer freeze that moved through the Rio Grande Valley during Christmas week 1983 decimated last year's crop, destroyed half of the fruit-bearing trees and severely damaged the rest, Les Whitlock, manager of the Texas Valley Citrus Committee, told The Dallas Morning News.

Whitlock said the freeze left behind 35,000 acres of trees incapable of producing fruit this year and thousands of acres of saplings that will take at least five years to become commercially productive.

A large number of Texas growers did not bother replanting the dead trees this year and industry officials hope the Florida disaster will convince the holdouts to give the Valley another chance, Whitlock said.

"The outlook (in Texas) is terrifically strong for a long time," said Gilbert Ellis of Valley Productions Care Inc.

But other Texas growers are pessimistic.

Florida has suffered four damaging freezes in the last five years and has seen its crop reduced by as much as 40 percent, but Texas has never benefited substantially, some growers say.

"The cost of getting into this game is so high, and it takes so long to realize returns," said Harlan Bentzinger, manager of Lake Delta Citrus Association in Weslaco.

Bentzinger and others also say Florida, with more than 800,000 acres of citrus cultivation, has never considered Texas, which had just 69,000 acres at its pre-freeze peak, as competition.

"Always before, when Florida had some problems, people get their hopes up, and it seems many times it didn't amount to anything as far as we're concerned because our production is such a small percentage of United States production," said Ross Smiley of Smiley Grove Care Inc. of Mission.

Florida, the nation's top citrus-producing state, turned out 140 million boxes of oranges and 40 million boxes of grapefruit in 1982-83. Texas, third in overall citrus production, produced six million boxes of oranges and 12 million boxes of grapefruit, according to Texas Valley Citrus Committee figures.

# A&M researcher discovers shipwreck

By PATRICE KORANEK  
Staff Writer

Last December, Texas A&M archaeologist George Bass announced finding a shipwreck off the coast of Turkey. The find is the most extensive underwater collection of Bronze Age relics, which is what Bass had hoped for.

At the time he didn't realize the extent of publicity it would be given.

"Everybody likes recognition for what they do, but it's getting to the point where you wonder how much more will help," Bass

said. "The recognition that the University has received from the National Geographic press conference has been something else, it even made papers in mainland China. The publicity has been staggering. It's nice to know that people care about our work."

Bass is both an alumni professor and distinguished professor at A&M and is a prominent figure in the Institute of Nautical Archaeology, a non-profit research center based at A&M. INA is the world's leading training program for nautical archaeolog-

ists. Bass, often called the "father of nautical archaeology," began his career by accident.

He was doing graduate work at the University of Pennsylvania when he was asked to work as an archaeologist in an excavation off of Turkey.

"I thought it would be a summer thing, and it has turned into a career," Bass said. Bass's present excavation is in the same area of his first experience with the underwater site in 1960.

"We like to think of nautical archaeology as regular archaeo-

logy," Bass said, "but with certain sites we have to dive, so except for that special circumstance it is like the regular thing," Bass said.

Texas A&M is home for Bass and the INA for two reasons. The sea grant college at A&M is one reason. Secondly, the sea doesn't play a big role in the field.

Contrary to what many people believe, Bass said, nautical archaeologists don't spend all of their time underwater. Instead, much time is spent sorting out the items that are brought up, studying them and classifying them.



Photo by ANTHONY S. CASPER

Texas A&M archaeologist George Bass

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