



## Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Collaborative Research Support Program

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### Trip Report: Peru, Bolivia 6-17 September 2006

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**Purpose of Trip:** 1) to discuss soils-related research projects in Peru; and 2) to coordinate and initiate research on soils-related issues in selected communities in Bolivia

**Sites Visited:** Lima, Peru; La Paz, Bolivia; and communities in Umala and Ancoraimes, Bolivia

**Description of Activities:**

Met with Roberto Quiroz of the International Potato Center (CIP), Percy Zorogastua, Braulio La Torre, and Julio Alegre from the National Agrarian University at La Molina (UNALM) in Peru to discuss collaboration on soils research. Primary interest was in examining the decline of natural grazing land due to global warming and overgrazing practices. Also met with current SANREM collaborators from UNALM, Silvana Vargas and Cecilia Turin, to discuss the survey activity that they have undertaken in Peru and to determine soils-related research activities in Peru.

Met with collaborators in Bolivia, including representatives from PROINPA, Universidad Mayor de San Andres (UMSA), Universidad de la Cordillera (UC), Iowa State University, and Kansas State University to discuss initial survey results and coordinate soils research. Visited communities in Ancoraimes and talked with community member panels about their perceptions of soils-related issues and priority needs. A similar trip and community discussions was also undertaken to communities in Umala. Also, took soil and bulk density samples of major soil types in each community based on community soil classification system. Samples of major organic soil amendments were also taken from each community. Soils samples were also taken to characterize the initial soil properties of experimental areas designated by the communities. A comparison of the effects of cropping rotations and fallowing periods on soil fertility and soil organic matter was also initiated in the Umala communities.

After visiting the communities, a final coordinating meeting was held in La Paz to discuss institutional and individual responsibilities for the project and personnel issues, including



selection and supervision of undergraduate and graduate students. A discussion of GIS applications for the project was also held.

**Suggestions and Recommendations:**

Good progress was achieved in the on-going survey activities and initiation of research activities at the community level in Bolivia. Several possible research opportunities were identified in both Peru and Bolivia that would need supplemental funding and follow-up is needed to identify those possible sources of funding.

List of Contacts Made:

Name	Title/Organization	Contact Info (address, phone, email)
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