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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

Box 592 STAN
Managua, Nicaragua
July 23, 1957

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
La Antigua, Guatemala, C.A.

Estimado Doctor:

Ya es bastante tiempo desde la última vez que lo vimos por Gainesville; muchas cosas han pasado en ese lapso de tiempo. Espero que Ud. y Doña Elena se encuentren bien y sin novedad. A Hugh, la última vez que lo vi, todavía estaba en pos de su doctorado en suelos, supongo que dentro de poco será un Ph. D.

Aquí nos tiene en Nicaragua, trabajando para el Servicio Técnico Agrícola (STAN). Mi jefe es el Dr. White quien tiene a su cargo el departamento de Horticultura de esta organización. Yo estoy dando clases en la escuela de Agricultura: Horticultura y Maquinaria Agrícola, además tengo a mi cargo las prácticas y los laboratorios que corresponden a estas clases. Hasta ahora los trabajos que han estado a mi cargo han sido los de hortalizas y viveros de propagación. Aquí la tierra es excelente, y el ambiente ideal para todo lo que sea propagación de plantas tropicales. Esto no puedo decir en cuanto a hortalizas se refiere, el calor y el sol excesivo para la mayoría de las hortalizas hacen que éstas no se comporten tan bien como los frutales. Los muchachos de 1^a año trabajan una hora y media por la tarde, lo cual hasta cierto punto es insuficiente para sus prácticas así como para mantener el departamento. Felizmente dispongo de dos tractorcitos pequeños que hacen un trabajo inmejorable de cultivación, rastreado y siembra.

La Escuela hasta cierto punto está en un período inicial, y todo se está organizando y haciendo la prueba. Con el cambio de Ministro, de el Sr. Sanchez al Sr. Enrique Chamorro, parece que todo el sistema ha sufrido una sacudida. Según oigo, el nuevo Sr. ha cortado el presupuesto y está más exigente queriendo resultados experimentales más o menos inmediatos. Esta es la razón por la que mucha gente demuestra descontento, debido a la falta de facilidades con la que ahora se encuentran.

Francamente le diré que yo no estoy muy contento con todo el sistema, debido a esta falta de facilidades, falta de respaldo disciplinario por parte de la dirección de la Escuela, y una serie de cosas que hacen que uno aflore la perfecta organización del Zamorano y las facilidades, cooperación que nunca faltaron allá.

Uno de los factores desfavorables aquí es que el gobierno de Nicaragua únicamente aporte las 2/3 partes del presupuesto del que dispone el STAN, el ICA aporta la 1/3 parte. Esto hace que la mayoría de los proyectos se desa-

rrollen con dinero Nicaraguense. Para ilustrar mi punto, mencionaré el caso del departamento de Horticultura, al cual el nuevo Ministro únicamente le aprueba experimentación con café, alegándose que es lo único que Nicaragua necesita por ahora.

En general, parece que el país ha sufrido una conmoción económica debido a los asuntos políticos de hace unos cuantos meses. Hay mucho desempleo y el costo de la vida ha subido y hay indicios de seguir subiendo.

Como hasta ahora no he dispuesto de mucho tiempo debido a mi trabajo, no he escrito a gente amiga en la Escuela para informarme como va eso allá. Por medio de un amigo supe que Mario Jalil ha tenido una muchachita en los últimos días. Supongo que los esposos Jalil estarán muy contentos. Con el Dr. Gilbert me encontré cuando veníamos de Miami. Según me contó, él seguía trabajando en la Escuela. Como Ud. sin duda sabrá, Federico sigue trabajando con la Compañía en Tenguel en el Ecuador, no he tenido noticias de él últimamente.

Bueno, espero tener noticias tuyas y espero que algún día nos venga a visitar por aquí, que después de todo, es un país muy interesante.

Afectuosamente,

L. Mals

Avenida Roosevelt num. 21, San Salvador
Rep. de El Salvador
12 agosto de 1957

Mr Simon Malo
Box 592, STAN
Managua, Nicaragua.

Dear Simon:

It was good to have news of you - brought by your letter of 23 July. I have been here in Salvador since the first of July. I will remain for the month of August. I have a contract with the government to prepare a program of fruit improvement, and to prepare a report on the work of the agricultural school at San Andres, which is based on the program of Zamorano in most respects. I go back to Antigua the first of September, and perhaps will go to Spain in a month or two after that, for I have a project on the Mediterranean coast, in connection with the introduction and propagation of subtropical fruits.

What you say about your work in Nicaragua is about what I would expect. We have to do our best, under conditions which sometimes do not seem ideal to us. I would urge you to be patient and not make a definite move until you feel sure it is the proper thing to do. I believe they could use you very well at the agricultural school here; undoubtedly also in Ecuador; and perhaps even at Zamorano. If you decide you should really make a change, get in touch with me at Antigua during October or November. The main problem, I am afraid, will be to get you as good a salary elsewhere as you are getting in Nicaragua.

I hope I may be able to visit Nicaragua later in the year - before I go to Spain, if I go there. Please write me from time to time, to let me know how you are getting along.

Siempre su afmo

Wilson Popenoe

P.O. Box 592 STAN
Managua, Nicaragua, C.A.
August 20, 1957

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Avenida Roosevelt N° 21
San Salvador, Rep. del Salvador

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I was very glad to receive your letter of Aug. 12, it certainly is nice to know that you are still dedicated to the development of these countries. It seems that you never seem to tire of this undertaking. Most people that have led as active a life as you have would be content to relax and just take it easy, but its a welcome change to see someone who still enjoys working.

That problem of fruit improvement you have undertaken must be something very interesting and something which will certainly do a lot of good in the field of horticulture to that country. I wish we had something like that over here, this country could certainly use a lot of improvement. The only department which really works and does a lot of experimentation and has very definite aims is the agronomy department here in the STAN, and to my estimation they have the most capable active head. Our horticulture department, because of the new minister's ideas, which are based on his belief that the only worthwhile crop is coffee and for other reasons, is lagging behind. My main trouble here is working on a part-time basis with the school, which has the vegetable garden. Here I have absolutely no cooperation plus the fact that even for getting some nails they have to consult and ask the minister's permission.

There are a lot of mango and citrus root stocks which are supposed to be for the students' practices, and so far we haven't been able to graft them because of the lack of sharpening stones, knives, and some sort of material to wrap the grafts. This problem was brought to the school's attention two months ago, and we have still to receive these supplies, consequently I haven't been able to let them have their practice in grafting. I can see this happening at Zamorano!

I was offered, before coming here, two tecnicos to assist me with the work; I have yet to see an adequate labor force, much less the two tecnicos which I was supposed to have! The boy who was in charge of the vegetable garden hasn't been replaced yet, he was sent to Puerto Rico on an ICA scholarship. This was a month ago, and now I find myself with an extra position to attend.

I have all the first year students against me because since I came here I have made them work and it seems that the director of the school doesn't want to back me up. You know how these agricultural schools are. The students seem to feel that working in the field is only for the mozos, not for Ingenieros Agrónomos. Fortunately, I was trained under different beliefs, and will continue to use these methods regardless of what the school thinks.

It's hard to work for an organization such as this, especially where you see no hope of improvement. So if these conditions continue, I think I will write to you in November as you suggest in your letter. I am very grateful to you for your interest in trying to help me.

I would certainly be glad to see you here and hope that even though you don't decide to go to Spain, you will visit Managua.

A few days ago I received letters from Federico and Edgar Puyol. Edgar Puyol writes that he was offered the direction of Daule School of Agriculture as Federico was also once offered. It seems that neither of them wants to undertake that job. It's a pity that politics always have to be messing things up. Federico says that there is such an abundance of Ingenieros Agrónomos in Ecuador that they don't know what to do with them.

I sure hope you decide to come to Managua, there are a lot of things which I would like to talk over with you. My regards to Doña Elena and my best wishes to you in your work.

Sincerely yours,

J. Halo

Cuenca, March 31th, 1960

Dr. Wilson Ropenoe
Calle de la Noblezza No. 2
La Antigua, Guatemala.

Apartado 181, Cuenca
Ecuador.

Dear Dr. Ropenoe:

It's been quite some time since the last time I wrote to you. I have spent already two months here at Cuenca, my hometown. I have come back here after 9 years of being away. There are lots of changes, especially the people have changed the most. Fortunately, my family is fine, my sisters, to whom I didn't recognize, are already grown up girls.

I am going back to the States around the middle of next month (May) and most probably I am going back to the University to get a Ph.D in the Fruit Crops Dept. As I told you when I met you at Gainesville, they have offered me a assistantship, this and the work of my wife will probably helps us to make ends meet.

I haven't seen Federico yet, as you know he is still at Tenguel. My uncle Enrique sends his regards to you. He is still very interested in Horticulture and I spend quite some time with him talking about this common interest. I am really enjoying this short stay here, it was something that I really needed.

Well, give my regards to Dña Helena and Hugo. I'd like to know where this lactone is working.

Antigua Guatemala, 7 Junio 1960

Ing. Simon Malo Ordóñez,
Apartado 181, Cuenca,
Ecuador, S.A.

Estimado Simon:

Le agradezco mucho su atenta carta del 31 de marzo. Me escribió Hugh y entiendo que Ud. regresará a Gainesville por su Ph. D. Esto me hace sentirme muy orgulloso.

Si Ud. todavía está en Cuenca cuando reciba esta carta, le ruego dar mis cariñosos recuerdos a su tío Enrique. Es posible que pueda venir a Gainesville en Diciembre para asistir a las Conferencias Hortícolas de la Sección del Caribe; si acaso vengo será un grato placer saludar a Ud. y a su señora esposa.

Hugh está actualmente en Gainesville, tratando de organizar un proyecto de investigaciones en agricultura tropical y también está enseñando algo.

Me despido de Ud. con mi mas atento saludo y muchos recuerdos para su señora.

Afmo amigo y servidor,

Wilson Popenoe

P.O. Box 2553 University Station
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida
July 7, 1962

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
La Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I hope everything is fine with you. We've got the usual unbearable weather this time of the year. Those of us from high places really miss the mountain breezes.

As you probably know by now, I won't be going to Zamorano after all. Apparently Dr. Paddock changed his plans at the last moment and instructed his secretary to let me know, while he was traveling somewhere, probably looking for a job. Frankly, I was disappointed because it was a nice opportunity to travel, meet people and to lay off the books for a while. Well, "No hay mal que por bien no venga" as they say. Now I'm taking a couple of courses in Organic Chemistry which are really keeping me on the ball.

José R. Calvo is going to Zamorano after all. In my opinion its a gain for the school, although I am sorry to see him go. Not only because he is a good friend of mine but also because he had already invested so much time and money to come up here. He sold all his things and made a lot of personal sacrifices, all of which were in vain. His reasons for leaving the University are not his studies, he finished the semester with pretty good grades, they are financial. The department of Agronomy could not extend his already low assistantship of 180 and some odd dollars for the summer. I gather that they did not want to do it, because they do have money to give fellowships to Indian students who are not particularly bright, at that.

Calvo took a temporary job with the Experiment Station with a meager student salary. I guess after a while, he could not overcome his discouragement over the whole thing and quit. Some of his friends tried to get something for him from other departments for the summer but there was nothing available. I am sure Dr. Erezdorn in the Fruit Crops Department would have given him an assistantship for September. I particularly wanted him to switch to the Fruit Crops Department because knowing Calvo, he would have done a good job and frankly, I like to show off a little, so the more good Zamoranos we have, the better for our reputation.

Another piece of gossip around here is that Frank

Bendaña has received a good offer from the University of Maracaibo. He still has 5 or 6 months to graduate and I don't know what he will finally decide to do.

The horticultural meetings were interesting according to Mr. Sharpe. He liked Guatemala and he is already sending peach-budwood to Mr. Benitez and someone else for testing. He feels Flordawon will do allright in la Antigua. This variety which he developed does fine in the Lake Alfred area.

Well, I am looking forward to seeing you back here soon,

Sincerely,

Simon



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATIONS AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE SCHOOL OF FORESTRY

SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT STATION

1890S E. W. 280TH STREET, ROUTE 1
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

March 21, 1967

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
1722 N. W. 2nd Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601

Dear Doc:

Thank you for your letter. I appreciate very much the letter to Don Galo, this will give me a chance to know him better and get some first hand information about Ecuador.

Next week when you come, give me a call either at 247-4624, the Station phone or at 247-2874 my home number. In the past whenever I realized that you were in the area, you had left already. Maria says that she will make a "Paella" if you come to our home. Give me a call and I can pick you up anyplace in Miami. We have an empty bed and you can spend the night with us and then we can tour the area. I'll show you my nursery, the varieties I have for the new variety collection and other things and plans I have. By the way, I picked up 'Tamayo' and 'Egas' from the Plant Introduction Station. 'Egas' is early, already with $1\frac{1}{2}$ - 2.0" fruit. We need early fruit and you can give me ideas on where to go to explore for early high quality, rather small (productive, too) West Indians. Quite an order, isn't? Well I will talk with you when you come next week.

Don't forget to call me when you come, I'll go see you right away.

Sincerely,

SIMON E. MALO
Assistant Horticulturist

SEM:cms



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SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT STATION

18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

October 17, 1967

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
1722 A NW 2nd Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601

Dear Doc:

Thank you for your letter of October 14. I am sorry I missed you when you came to the Station last week. Apparently I had just left when you came, I had been expecting you during that morning.

Herbert Landrum has around 26 'Prolific' and about 8-10 Theus #2 sapodilla trees. This last selection is a good one. I like it because it is as good a producer as 'Prolific' with a better shaped fruit. All the trees stand about 24 inches and they are in No. 10 tin cans. I am sure they would be alright if you take them in late November to Guatemala. I can put them bare root in large plastic bags and you can pick them up here at the Station. This past August I took 8 lychee seedlings to Ecuador. I kept them with me for a week, while at the meetings of the "Tropical Region" in Panama and when I got to Guayaquil I planted them in plastic bags and put another bag to cover the foliage. I did not lose a single tree.

While in Ecuador I had a nice conversation with Don Galo Plaza. We talked about Zamorano among other things and he sent you his regards.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the 2nd edition of Luis Cordero's book on native and introduced plants of Ecuador. Luis Moscoso, the man from which I got it insisted on putting you a "dedicatoria."

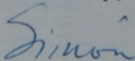
Another man who sends you his "saludos" is Don Federico von Buchwald. I spent a few hours on his farm, looking at Rambutans (achotillo), mangosteen and other interesting things. I took many Kodachrome pictures of fruits. By now I have a pretty good collection of Kodachrome slides which I will use in giving this course in Tropical fruits if I go to the University of Illinois this coming April and May.

Page 2
Dr. Wilson Popenoe
October 17, 1967

Tell me what you decide about the trees. I have told Landrum to hold them for you, but perhaps you should send him "un adelanto." They retail for \$1.25 each.

Saludos a Hugh.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Simon".

SIMON E. MALO
Assistant Horticulturist

SEM:cms

Enclosure

Gainesville, Fla., 25 Oct 1967

Dr Simon Malo
Subtropical Experiment Station
Homestead, Fla.

Dear Simon:

Many thanks for your letter of the 17th, and especially for the copy of the new edition of Luis Cordero's book. When I was in Ecuador back in 1920 I obtained a copy of the original edition, but it has long since disappeared. Considering the time at which it was written, and the limited literature (probably) at the old man's resources, it is a remarkably good job. If you write Luis Moseoso, tell him I appreciate the dedicatory.

About the sapodillas: Your experience with the lychees you took to Ecuador is very encouraging. I have found lychees just about the hardest of all tropical fruit trees to transport long distances. I did take one over to Almuñecar (Spain) last year which my compadre over there says has survived.

It looks now as though I will have to fly down to Guatemala and Honduras about the 28th of November, to attend the ceremonies and Board Meeting at Zamorano. I will greatly appreciate it if you will help me out as suggested, that is, take the plants down to the station and just before I fly to Central America, pack them up as you did the lychees. I will go down to Miami a couple of days ahead of flying time. You suggest that I give Herbert Landrum an adelanto. De acuerdo. I am enclosing herewith my check for \$50 which please pass along to him - I do not have his address. I will take all the good young trees he has and pay him the balance due when I come down there.

I am glad you saw Galo Plaza. Prof Julio Pineda saw him a couple of months ago. I was at Zamorano when Julio returned and he said Galo is still opposed to the addition of a 4th year to EAP and the degree business. I understand Hernan Fonseca is, too. And quite a few others. I believe ultimately we should come to it, but I do think - and Bert Muller agrees - that the time is not quite ripe for such a move. However, I will go along with the rest of the Board if there is a guarantee of plenty of money in site, and right now that sure is not the case.

So you saw don Federico von Bushwald? And he has some rambutans. And mangosteens. When I first went to Ecuador, 1920, there were a couple of fair-sized mangosteens at Chobo, not far from Yaguachi. It seems to me they had a rambutan as well, but I am not sure of this. I still have a foto of the mangosteen tree.

I am strong for that program of going to the University of Illinois to give a short course on tropical fruits, and have written them to that effect. I just wish we could line things up here at Gainesville so that all students who wish to study tropical fruit culture could have a short field course given them at Homestead, with practicals. I have been talking with Hugh about this. Some day I believe we can put it over.

Hasta luego.



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
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SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT STATION

18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

November 2, 1967

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
1722 A NW 2 Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601

Dear Doc:

Thank you for your letter of October 25. I have already given the \$50.00 check to H. Landrum. He has about 25 'Prolific' sapodilla plants in gallon cans and 16 of two local selections. His price per plant is \$1.50. Whenever you are ready to come down, send me a note telling me when you want these plants packed and I will have them ready for you to take to Guatemala.

Thank you for your comments on the proposed University of Illinois position, to teach a course in tropical fruits. I have already obtained the approval of Dr. Conover and Dr. J. R. Beckenbach in Gainesville. I am very enthusiastic about this thing and looking forward to it.

Yes, Don Galo also told me he was opposed to the proposed four year program for Samorano. He seems to be opposed to it for two reasons. First and most crucial one: he asked me where is the money to do it?. He added, trying to get it from the students will be impractical and will eliminate the portion of the population which really needs to be trained in agriculture, meaning the small middle class and the vast lower class. The other reason has remained clear in my mind, perhaps because I consider it inevitable. He said that a four-year trained "Ingeniero Agronomo" will go directly from graduation to fill bureaucratic jobs, and there he will remain shuffling papers without ever working on the things he was trained for. He's got a good point there, however, this to my way of thinking is almost inevitable. This is a built-in handicap with which good trained people come out from Universities and Schools of Agriculture. Of course, it is worse in Latin America because of the exceedingly small number of trained people.

I look at this whole thing with mixed emotions. I recognize and appreciate Don Galo's points, especially the first one, which is the one that cuts the mustard. Where is the financial backing going to come from? In case that this is secured, then the next question is where are the professors and trained people needed for such an undertaking. Samorano will have to change substantially. Requirements of previous schooling of the students will have to be different, etc.

Page 2
Dr. Wilson Popenoe
November 2, 1967

Sometimes I think, whether it won't be better to use whatever money is obtainable for these things, for the establishing of another Samorano.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

Simon

SIMON E. MALO
Assistant Horticulturist

SEM:cms

Could you let me know if Hugh will be coming down to the meetings of the Hort. Society in Miami Beach. I'd like to talk with him about some publications.

Saludos.

Gainesville, 14 November 1967

Dr Simon Malo
Subtropical Experiment Station
Homestead, Florida.

Dear Simon:

This is just to confirm that I expect to drop in on you
sometime before noon on the 28th of this month, to pick up the
sapodillas you have so kindly offered to prepare for travel to
Central America. Since you had such good success with the lychees
you took to Ecuador, obviously you have perfected a good technique.
Whether I had best leave these trees in our nursery at EAP (I have
to go to Tegucigalpa for nearly a week before continuing to Guatemala)
remains to be discussed with you when I get down to Homestead. Maybe
we should plant part of the trees at Zamprano permanently. Down by
the Yeguaré, on that nice sandy loam I wanted to use for cacao.

Go ahead and incur any necessary expense in connection with
this job; I will reimburse you when I get down there. Contado y
sonante.

Faithfully yours,



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

Homestead, Nov. 4, 1968.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE SCHOOL OF FORESTRY

SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Dear Doc:

18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

I did not want to answer your ^{letter} until I was sure of my schedule. I will be in Guatemala Sunday Nov. 10 at 9²⁵ AM, PANAmerican flight 503. At first I wanted to stop only for a few minutes or hours but this was not possible, therefore I have reservation in Aviateca Nov. 11 (Monday) at 7¹⁰ AM going to San Pedro Sula. I've got to see John Dickson at La Lima. I am taking some mango budwood for him, besides I want to see the pondition of some Lychee airlayer he's got for me in Guaruma II. I am also staying one night here and flying the next morning to San Jose'.

I am going to take ^{to you} a few plants of Sapodilla, a few of mango, some cutified clones of Tahiti lime and perhaps some avocados. It will be nice if I can find 'Ruehle'. It will ^{also} be nice if you can get in touch with Mario Arana in case you cannot come out and meet me. He should be warned of this shippment anyway, so that he can get them started. Somebody will have to help me through 'Customs', but I know you have 'Cuelli' there in Guatemala, so I am not worried. I would love to see the Peaches you have down there, I will ^{be} there all day Sunday ^{but} I don't know about the transportation facilities. You're the boss, so you can take me wherever you want. I'd also love to see some Green Sapote, I hope they are in season.

Saludos Simon



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SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT STATION

1890S S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

March 3, 1969

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Escuela Agrícola Panamericana
Apartado 93
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Dear Doc:

I was very happy to learn of your recent marriage and together with Maria want to congratulate you and your wife very sincerely. Hugh called me yesterday to talk with me about our contract with Costa Rica and he told me ^{about it.} Later in day, I saw John and he also mentioned it to me. Both are very pleased about it.

Please don't forget to visit us whenever you come up here. We would like very much to meet your wife.

Best regards and again congratulations.

Sincerely,

SIMON E. MALO
Assistant Horticulturist

SEM:cms

Air Mail



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

Homestead, April 1, 1969

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE SCHOOL OF FORESTRY

SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT STATION

18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

Dear Doc:

Thank you very much for your 'Participation', I'd like to congratulate you and your wife again, and wish you all the happiness in the world. If you come this way don't forget to visit us, we are ~~very~~ anxious to meet your wife.

I am sending ^{you} a copy of the report I prepared after my trip to Costa Rica for AID and University of Florida. Please read it and would like very much to get your comments. Some of your suggestions as to temperate fruits were included, for which I thank you very much. One plum variety which I should have added is 'Beauty'. Enrique, my uncle, caught this one, and I think he's got a fruit, since in Ecuador (Cuenca) 'Beauty' it is one of the best. It loads itself with fruit every year at the altitude of Cuenca. It should, at least, be tested in Costa Rica.

Last week I flew up to Urbana, Illinois to give a lecture at the university, and had a chance to talk to Dr. Williams in the telephone. He tells me he saw you in Antigua the day following your marriage.

Best regards

Simon

Antigua, Guatemala 5 January 1970

Dr Simon Malo
Subtropical Experiment Station
Homestead, Florida

Dear Simon:

Several people who attended the meeting in Cali have talked to me about the progress of grape growing in the Cauca valley. Alfonso Torres showed me some fotos of what look to me like grapes of the Muscat of Alexandria type which were growing at several places in the valley, on a small commercial scale, when I was last there. Someone else has mentioned "Cornichon" as being grown there. I am wondering if there have been any substantial changes in the situation in recent years. When I was last there they were growing Isabella on a small commercial scale. I had sent Jaime Villegas Niagara which they had tried and more or less given up. The small "vineyards" of Muscat of Alexandria or whatever it is, required a lot of spraying but a few growers were producing fruit for dessert use which was sold at a fancy price.

Would you be good enough to tell me something about the present situation? For many years there has been a lot of interest in grape growing in the Cauca and a few other regions, and I have even seen a small book about it. But what are the facts, and what do you think of the future of grape growing in Colombia?

I hope all goes well with you. Here in Guatemala we are giving a lot of attention to pears and "canning cling" peaches right now. The "melting flesh" peaches such as Ralph Shappe's and his nectarines are coming along well. Best regards a ways,

Faithfully yours,



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATIONS AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE SCHOOL OF FORESTRY

SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT STATION

18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

May 4, 1970

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2
La Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doc:

It was a pleasure to have you at the Station again. We enjoy your visits very much and you should come more often.

Enclosed you will find a short report of my impression of Israel's tropical and subtropical fruit horticulture, and I'd like to share some of these with you. I have been in Israel twice in the last twelve months and have a fairly good idea of what they have been doing lately with fruits.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Simon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter being a large capital 'S'.

SIMON E. MALO
Assistant Horticulturist

SEM:cms

Encl. - 1



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SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT STATION

18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

May 20, 1970

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2
La Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doc:

Thank you for your letter. Just a comment on 'Benik' as a pollinator of 'Nabal'. The current impression by growers and other practical people is that they may be wasting space by planting so many 'Benik', and it actually boils down to the fact that they don't really know whether or not 'Nabal' is benefited by a pollinator. Oppenheimer has sort of dominated tropical horticulture for a long time in Israel and it seems that it was his recommendation to interplant 'Benik' and 'Nabal'. Today there are quite a number of younger horticulturists, like Bob Ticho, who only agree with Oppenheimer on a few things. Some growers have also travelled widely and are beginning to think that things may be different than what was so dogmatically asserted before. So much for that.

I am trying to get Galo Plaza here for the November meetings. I have suggested to him that if he comes he should talk about the need for improving agricultural education in Latin America. A talk like this from the Secretary General of the OAS will be very stimulating for the members of the Tropical Region A.S.H.S. and other people interested in the subject. If you have a chance to write to him, please mention this to him. I need your backing. Hugh has offered transportation and other expenses.

We wish you an enjoyable trip to Europe.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read "Simon".

SIMON E. MALO
Assistant Horticulturist

SEM:cms

Air mail

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
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18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

September 21, 1970

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza #2
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doc:

Thank you very much for your recent letter. I am very glad you had a good time on your trip to Europe, but particularly in Spain. I have also received a postcard from Sarazola requesting some mango budwood. I will be more than glad to help him out. I have to visit that Almuñecar area as you suggest. I had hoped that this past March I could stop in Spain on my way to Israel but it was impossible. I took a seat in a chartered plane from New York - Tel Aviv, and it was, of course, a direct flight with a short stop in Rome and Athens.

I am somewhat acquainted with Mr. Magdahl because I know his son Frank very well. I was with him very recently in the Yautla area, where he has a very nice grove of mostly 'Hass', and 'Edranol'. He has a few trees of 'Corona' which comes from Chile and seems to be a winner of an avocado. It is a small, rather spreading tree which produces profusely and matures in late August, Sept. and Oct. Roughly parallels 'Fuerte' in this respect, although it is a little later perhaps. Frank is already shipping 'Fuerte' (at 10 pesos Kilo) to Monterrey but will wait for a while for 'Corona'. 'Edranol' is a variety which has not been very successful in California but seems to be great at 1210 mts, the altitude of Yautepec. Frank has many problems in his grove but he is an excellent grower and he is not afraid to try new things and methods. I am setting up a nutritional experiment with him to see if we can get some useful data on fertilizer management. It will certainly be the first well designed nutritional experiment in Mexico or at least one of the few. Mexico as you know has unusually good conditions for fruit growing, more than any other country that I know. I payed a visit to the Merced market and spent a whole morning talking to the "Doñas" and trying to get information. A thankless task as you well know. Anyway, I found in late August twenty-five different species of fruits offered for sale. Some fruits like grapes, apples, peaches, citrus had many different types. I saw a range which went from apples to Mamey Sapote. I had a good time and obtained very useful information.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Page 2
September 21, 1970

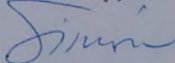
I spent two weeks in El Salvador consulting with the fellows of the School at San Andrés. I saw Hugh who stopped for a few hours, and had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Catherine Coolidge (of Samorano's Board of Regents). I also saw Don Chico De Sola for some brief moments at the airport and went to Los Andes to his plant^gsup there.

Our symposium is taking shape very nicely and have already lined up seven speakers. The symposium will deal mainly with the specific subject ~~of~~ varieties. The title goes like this "A 1970 review of important cultivars of fruits for the tropics". Hugh has been very generous in authorizing travel funds for some of these people. Robert J. Ticho of Israel is coming to talk to us about progress in low chilling temperate fruits in Israel.

Well Doc, we will be looking forward to seeing you here at the meetings. Give my respects to your wife.

With warm personal regards.

Sincerely,



SIMON E. MALO
Assistant Horticulturist

SEM:cms

Air mail

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATIONS AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE SCHOOL OF FORESTRY

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18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

October 23, 1970

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2
La Antigua, Guatemala

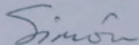
Dear Doc:

Thank you for your letter of September 29. Our program for the coming meetings looks pretty good and I hope we won't have any last minute cancellations. Hugh will provide the funds to publish the papers of the Symposium as a separate booklet. I am ^{adding under separate cover} ~~enclosing one of~~ last year's symposium so that you will see how they look. All the authors have been warned that this is not a checklist of cultivars but a discussion of the subject within the limits of time and space permitted by the societies. Well, now that all the planning has been done let's hope everything turns out alright.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter from Galo Plaza. I am very thankful to him for recommending me to the board, although I am sure "others" were also instrumental in seeing to it that my name will show up in that list of possible members.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,



SIMON E. MALO
Assistant Horticulturist

SEM:cms

Air mail

For your information.

Dear Doc: Here's what we have organized for the coming meeting.

I have already learned that Sylvain will not come and possibly Soria, because of the outbreak of Coffee Rust in Brazil. It
be everybody hanging. Simon

KROME MEMORIAL SECTION

Simon E. Malo, Vice-President
Presiding

WEDNESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 28 [1970]

Joint Symposium with Tropical Region A.S.H.S.
"A 1970 review of important cultivars of fruits for the Tropics"

- 8:00 - Mango and Avocado Cultivars. S. E. Malo, Sub-Tropical Experiment Station, IFAS, Homestead.
- 8:20 - Macadamia and Lychee Cultivars. R. A. Hamilton, Department of Horticulture, University of Hawaii, Honolulu.
- 8:40 - Pineapple Cultivars. G. Samuels, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras.
- 9:10 - Low Chilling Temperature Fruits in Israel. R. J. Ticho, Department of Fruit Culture, Ministry of Agriculture, Israel.
- 9:30 - Intermission.
- 9:45 - Citrus Cultivars for the Tropics. A. H. Krezdorn, Department of Fruit Crops, IFAS, Gainesville.
- 10:05 - Banana Cultivars. K. Shepherd, Breeding Research Scheme, Banana Board, Kingston, Jamaica.
- 10:25 - Cacao Cultivars. Jorge Soria, IICA, Turrialba, Costa Rica.
- 10:45 - Minor Tropical Fruit Cultivars in Florida. C. W. Campbell, Sub-Tropical Experiment Station, IFAS, Homestead.
- 11:05 - Coffee Cultivars. Pierre Sylvain, IICA, Turrialba, Costa Rica
- 11:25 - Sectional Business Meeting.

Antigua, Guatemala 31 Oct 1970

Dr Simon E. Male,
Subtropical Experiment Station
Gainesville, Florida

Dear Simon:

Just about this time you should be getting back to Homestead after attending the Miami meetings, and I bet they were very interesting. I would very much like to hear about the Krome Memorial meeting and your symposium. Kitty Coolidge has written that you may be going to Zamorano for the graduation exercises about the first of November. Can you tell me if this is lined up? I am not yet certain whether I will go over there for the occasion. I would be more interested if I knew you were going to be there, so that we could look over the fruit trees together and I could a lot of information from you about the Miami meetings.

I was delighted to receive your letter of 23 October with the copy of one from our great and good friend Gale Plaza. In my opinion he is the greatest statesman in Latin America and I think he understands Escuela Agrícola Panamericana better than anyone else. I hope he will still be able to take an active part in guiding the destinies of the school.

I am afraid we are not going to get much out of that last batch of sapodillas I brought down. The trees had been so close together in the nursery that the stems had not hardened up at all. Too "soft". Next time I come up I hope to get some more, if they are available and in better condition to stand moving.

Best regards to all the family.

Faithfully yours,

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
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SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT STATION

18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

December 17, 1970

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2
La Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doc:

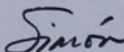
In two separate packages I am sending you enough budwood of 'Early Amber' peach to graft all the stocks of Arturo Falla and then some. I just came back from Gainesville where I found ways of getting this budwood. I want to ask you to keep it quiet as to the source of this variety. It is patented and, therefore, the University of Florida and myself will be in an embarrassing position if the holders of the patent realized what is going on.

It was very nice seeing you and Alice at Samorano again. As I explained to you we had a very useful meeting. I hate to think what Don Chico will say after he realizes what our decision was.

Let me know how the budwood arrived.

Felices Pascuas y Próspero Año Nuevo.

Best regards,



SIMON E. MALO
Assistant Horticulturist

SEM:cms

Air mail



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
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HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

Diciembre 18, 1970

Sr. Ricardo Perez Albarran
6 y 7 Hidalgo
Ciudad Victoria, Tamps.
Mexico

Estimado Sr. Perez Albarran:

He recibido una carta del Dr. Wilson Popenoe pidiendome que conteste una carta que Ud. escribió a la revista 'La Hacienda' con referencia a información sobre aguacate 'Lula'. He leído su carta con mucho interés y francamente estoy sorprendido de la falta de producción de sus arboles. 'Lula' aquí es muy productivo y responde muy bien a fertilizantes.

Ud. comprenderá que es casi imposible hacer un diagnóstico de un paciente que está a muchísimos Kilómetros de distancia. Hay cientos de factores, ya sea ambientales o de otra naturaleza que pueden influenciar en la falta de producción. Pero dejeme hacer unas cuantas observaciones: a) Su terreno tiene un Ph. de 7.5 lo cual es alto y es muy probable que hayan deficiencias de Mn, Zn, Fe y otros, suficientes como para resultar en producción baja. b) El suelo dice Ud. ser un franco arcilloso lo cual puede ser lo suficiente pesado para afectar la producción: Aguacates son extremadamente susceptibles a suelos pesados por varias razones c) La variedad 'Lula' entre nosotros es la mas susceptible a la enfermedad fungosa conocida como Roya (*Sphaseloma perseae*). Este hongo puede botar hasta el 90% de la producción inmediatamente después del cuajamiento de la fruta, sino se asperja con un fungicida apropiado.

Podrá Ud. ver que la única forma de diagnosticar su problema es ir a Ciudad Victoria y observar al paciente personalmente y hablar con su nodriza acerca del historial del enfermo. A la distancia no le puedo sino desear buena suerte.

Sinceramente,

SIMON E. MALO
Assistant Horticulturist

SEM:cms

cc: Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Dr. Hugh Popenoe

Antigua, Guatemala 2 January 1971

Dr Simon E Malo
Subtropical Experiment Station
Homestead, Florida

Dear Simon:

On 27 December, ten days after it was shipped, the first package of peach budwood arrived. Today the second one came in.

Simon, this was a swell job. I took the first package down to Arturo Falla's place right away. Arturo is in Costa Rica, but Rafael who is in charge of the nursery was there and we opened the package and figured it would give us close to 100 puas for veneer grafting. We also figured that we would get quicker results if we topped worked some two-year-old Floridawons and Okinawas which they have. Some of these are at San Sebastian, 4800 feet and some at Concepcion (where the pears are) 6900 feet. I am inclined to think the latter elevation will be best for a permanent orchard because Floridawon has grown and fruited so well there, but the main idea right now is to get more propagating materials as promptly as possible.

I am not telling even Arturo just where this budwood came from. We have been told the variety is available in Mexico.

No news from Zamorano since you were down here at the meeting. Hugh spent Christmas with us and gave me a lot of interesting details. As Dr Reitz has pointed out, the big thing now is for the financiers to get money to pay our year to year operating costs on the old basis. I am anxious to see that they don't raise the tuition to the point where the students will demand ice cream every day for supper, and more time to spend in Comayagüela. And I don't want to see them saddled with loans at 12% or more. Many many thanks for that wonderful batch of puas.

Always faithfully yours



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SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT STATION

18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

February 11, 1971

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2
La Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doc:

Just a note to tell you that the last shipment of peach budwood I sent you was also 'Early Amber' from the same source I got the other one. The material had received its chilling and it was beginning to break out in new growth.

I wrote to the Mexican avocado grower who had problems of production with 'Lula' but have not heard from him yet.

The EAP Board is meeting in New York on May 3 and it seems to me it may be an important meeting. I will keep you informed of what goes on.

I am sending you a photocopy of this very interesting article about you and your great contributions to Latin America.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

SIMON E. MALO
Assistant Horticulturist

SEM:cms



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Agricultural Research and Education Center
~~SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT STATION~~

18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

May 20, 1971

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza #2
La Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doc:

Thank you for your recent letter. I know the area of Boliche east of Guayaquil fairly well and have been through the area recently. I also know Diego Quevedo, he was a classmate of Mario Jolil in Gainesville.

The meeting of the Board went very well, since we took final steps to bury the last shred of hope some people had about continuing with this dream of Samorano U. I haven't told you this but it took a lot of politicking and straight talking to some members, to sort of shake them up with reality. The funny thing was that most everybody knew the pitfalls but kept his mouth shut for fear of offending his fellow members. Since I was new and sensed this atmosphere I figured I might as well bring to the open all my misgivings about the whole idea. This was at the December meeting in Honduras. This time in New York the fourth year program died of natural death.

Hugh and I, along with Roberts and Armour are on the Academic Committee. We are trying to get some action and have initiated a study of the salary situation at EAP. We will be getting, hopefully, some information from other institutions in the U.S. and Latin America which will help us evaluate our own situation. Perhaps in this way we will know where we stand in relation to our competition.

You should be glad because your ideas have been vindicated by this turn of events. Galo Plaza seemed very satisfied.

It was a pity I could not talk personally with my "gran paisano" and profit from his ideas. We didn't have much time for anything.

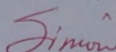
Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Page 2
May 20, 1971

I hope, frankly, to form with Kitty, Hugh and other persons knowledgeable about the School and genuinely interested in its mission, a small Mafia, so that we can be more effective. I feel, like you have in the past, I am sure, that some people come to the meetings to warm their chair seats. It is alright, there has to be some "figuras decorativas." We also don't want any one person dominating the affairs and decisions of the Board. It can bring disastrous consequences ~~for~~ the school.

We have lost in Dr. Reitz an excellent chairman. We hope we can get somebody as good or better than he. I have already written to Mr. Kimberly (Chairman Nominating Committee) regarding this matter and have expressed my views on the matter. This may be highly irregular and a breach of good taste. But I can always pretend lack of knowledge of proper procedure. That crazy Latin American, you know!

Best regards to Alice and you.

Sincerely,



SIMON E. MALO
Assistant Horticulturist

SEM:cms

Air mail

Sept. 1, 1971

Dear Doc:

Sorry I missed you when I was at Seneca, I think Jack Greenman is doing an excellent job of evaluating The School. I spent 2 days with him and we talked about many possible solutions to many problems. I feel particularly bad about Horticulture. Radspinner is frankly worse than what I thought he would be, and apparently nothing is being done about it.

I am enclosing a copy of last year's symposium. I think it is a good review of recent development in tropical fruits.

Best regards Jimin
Say hello to Mrs. Popper.



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
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AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER
SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT CENTER

18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

September 23, 1971

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2
La Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doc:

Thank you for your two recent letters. Your comments about the "Rad's" problem at Samorano are very appropriate; however, I am afraid that any one person cannot do very much about it. There has to be collective action, first from the Academic Committee and then from the Board. I am looking forward to Dr. Greenman & Co. study of the situation and then I want to get together with Hugh and discuss the situation. Reports from the "grapevine telegraph" claim that Mr. Kimberly will probably be the next chairman of the Board. I also hear that he has never been at Samorano.

Mimusops hexandra: apparently has never reached Florida shores but I will try to get seeds from my Indian friends at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

Recently Harold Kendall came to see me. He is going to Spain and wanted to know whether it is possible to find any superior early West Indian avocado in the Canary Islands. I told him that it was possible but not very likely and that perhaps a better place was the north coast of Colombia, Santa Marta and surrounding areas. I have to explore this area sometime if I can find the time.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

SIMON E. MALO
Associate Horticulturist

SEM:ms



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
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AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER

SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT STATION

18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

March 9, 1972

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doc:

We have one good selection of Mamey Sapote and another one of Sapodilla for which we are looking ~~for~~ some good names. I've decided that Maya names will be very appropriate and would like to hear your suggestions. Will you please give me a few names which can be easily pronounced by North Americans. The Mamey Sapote is a small, prolific tree, and produces almost year round. The fruits are rather small, 8-10 oz., with one seed in their majority and quite acceptable flavor and flesh color. The Sapodilla is a Reinecke introduction from Guatemala and its outstanding characteristic aside from good quality and production, is that it produces very early - December through March.

What are the Maya or Kitché words for Prolific and Early.

Please give me your comments.

Give my regards to Alice. Thank you.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

S. E. MALO
Assoc. Horticulturist

SEM:er

An+igua, Guatemala 28 March 1972

Dr Simon E Malo
Subtropical Exp Station
Homestead, Florida.

Dear Simon:

Replying to yours of the 9th, regarding names for you new (mamey) Sapote and new Sapodilla, here is the best I can do:

The Sapodilla first. I have never come across a Maya word which involves earliness in ripening. We have a good word in the Kekchi language which means "abundant production" which you will recall I gave to one of my Guatemalan avocados - now one of the three leading commercial varieties in Israel. But gringos always pronounce this word incorrectly, just as George B Cellon and E. Simmonds always called Fuerte "El Few-ret" until they died.

So here is my suggestion for the best name for a new Sapodilla if it merits this distinction. TIKAL. As you know, history records that the little army of Hernan Cortes, on the famous March from Tehuantepec to the Golfo Dulce in 1523 (I believe it was) was saved from starvation by eating sapodillas from the wild trees which are so abundant in Petén, where they have been exploited for chewing gum which has not saved any lives but has prevented many female stenographers in New York City from going crazy. Now, Tikal is the most famous of the Maya ruins in Petén. It was practically on the line of March of the Cortés army and its Aztec auxiliaries. Thousands of North Americans have visited Tikal; other thousands have heard of it; and even George B Cellon would have found it hard to mis-

pronounce the name. Though Ed Simmonds might have been able to do it. Didn't he, right up to the end of his days, talk about Magnifica indica.

Now as to the Tzapotl, which you fellows call mamey sapote, tho I could never find out why. I am at a loss to find a descriptive word in any of the Maya dialects (I havent looked in all of them, of course) which will fit the case. You say the tree is prolific and produces all the year round. I suppose by talking an Indian and telling him the story he would give us a series of words which would be quite appropriate, but it would be must one word, and it would not be pronounceable by many gringos. The nearst I could come to it would be Nabal, which I chose for the aguacate because the old gal in San Cristobal Verapaz (Kekchi language) when I stopped to admire the tree because it was loaded with fruit, "Nabal li okh tin keh". "This avocados bears big crops". You could call you mamey zapote Nabal very appropriately I suppose, But the name isnt too attractive nor too pronounceable. I am think of a prettier word, Kanola, which I used for an aguacate which was small and pretty and mighty nice in general. This avocado is no longer grown so far as I know and the parent tree here is dead. What would you think of this name?

I am sorry this is the best I can do, but I'll bet you asked a real Maya scholar to suggest descriptive names, such as you want, he would come out with terms which nobody could remember, much less pronounce. Maybe you better settle for Campbell's Choice and Malo's Favorite.

Alice and I are flying over to Zamorano tomorrow to stay several weeks. We have had so many visitors on our hands since the first of the year that I simply must get away and talk to those mango trees over at Zamorano for a change.

Warmest regards always,



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AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER
SUB-TROPICAL EXPERIMENT STATION

18905 S. W. 280TH STREET
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

April 3, 1972

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Escuela Agricola Panamericana
Apartado 93
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Dear Doc:

Just a note to thank you for your recent letter. The names you suggest are very good, particularly TIKAL. I'd like to know what KANOLA means and whether it is also a Kekchi word. From now on I will try to use only names from the area of the world where the tree is native.

How are things in Zamorano? I was recently with Hugh in Gainesville and talked about many things, he tells me that perhaps in two weeks he will fly to Honduras.

This coming week I will be in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. I have been helping them out with their agriculture, and trying to see if they start a vocational school patterned in similar ways to Zamorano, I hope. Next year they may send two students to EAP, so that they can start a group of teachers. I feel sorry for these people, with an agriculture different from Spains, they don't have anybody to turn to for help. The banana industry has very serious problems, which is the reason I am taking Harry Stover from Lima, Honduras. He has found what could be a new strain in "Panama disease" in their "Dwarf Cavendish" and everybody is naturally alarmed. They would like to know what to do with their land presently with bananas. Avocados is a good alternative and also some other tropical fruits.

Please say hello to Alice and the Armours. Since I cannot contract mango trees for the school with any reliable nursery here (Landrum is out-of-business) I am propagating them myself here at the Station.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Simon E. Malo

SIMON E. MALO

Associate Horticulturist

SEM:cms

Air mail

Antigua, Guatemala 1 May 1972

Dr Simon Malo
Subtropical Experiment Station
Homestead, Florida.

Dear Simon:

Your letter of 3 April reached me just before we went over to Zamorano for a month. We came back home five days ago; Hugh and Mr Kimberly spent a night with us, then proceeded to Zamorano where they were going to discuss with Bob some of the recommendations of the Committee which came down last summer. I spent a lot of time discussing them with Bob when I was over there. I hope you get home in time to attend the meeting of the Board this month; there will be some interesting things to talk about.

The real purpose of this letter is to take up the matter of a name for your new Tzapotl, Calocarpum mammosum as some of this prefer to call it. I am glad you like TIKAL for the saposilla; I think it very suitable, and gave my reasons in my previous letter. You mention that you like to use names from the regions where trees are native. Well, as I mentioned in my letter, I guess there is no place in the world there are more wild saposillas than in the Peten. I have seen dozens of them right at the Tikal ruins. The name Tikal is familiar to many people, and it fits the English language much better than many other words. I don't know just where the archeologists got it, but I bet they chose it for that among other reasons.

Now, when it comes to your new variety (clone) of the zapote, we have two regions to take into account: southern Mexico and Guate-

this to me, but it was here in Guatemala and I believe in Cobán. But it really doesn't smack of the Kekchi language, so I wrote Doña Lulu Hampstead who was born in Cobán and knows the Kekchi language perfectly. This was nearly a month ago and I haven't heard from her; she is past 90 and may not have been able to reply at the moment, or the letter may have been lost. But in any case, Kanola (which I was told means sweetheart) doesn't really sound like a Kekchi word so I have spent the morning going thru a Kekchi vocabulary I have here (I do not know of a really good Kekchi dictionary) and I have also looked for an Aztec name, since that would be just as appropriate as one from a Maya dialect. But the Aztec names are hopeless; I could find no word which would be appropriate which was not more difficult than ahuacuahuitl (which means avocado orchard) so I gave up, and turned to my Kekchi vocabulary. I used to have a Maya grammar which contained more words than this little vocabulary, but I gave it away years ago.

Kanola is not in the Kekchi vocabulary. But the word chabil would be appropriate enough and is repeated many times. I used it myself when I was in the Alta Verapaz in 1916-17. Chabil means simply good, and in your case would simply mean a good zapote. (I used to say when they showed me a good avocado "mas chabil li okh" (the Indians have incorporated many Spanish words in their vocabulary, for example mas, so mas chabil li okh means the avocado is very good).

You may recall that I named an avocado Nabal, because it means abundant or plentiful. I was looking at an avocado tree in San Cristobal Verapaz when the Indian owner said "Nabal li okh tin keh" which means this tree bears lots of avocados.

So there you are. If you don't think Chabil good enough, give me time and I will see what I can do. I have in mind using the name of some town in Guatemala or southern Mexico where the zapote grows wild.

I was delighted to learn that you were going back to the Canaries to push things along a bit, and I greatly hope they will build a small school patterned on Zamorano, but they are going to have one heck of a time staffing it if they limit themselves to Spanish teachers. (FAO has just established a school of Forestry here in Central America, at Siguatepeque, Honduras. It is modelled on Zamorano but will turn out foresters exclusively, and FAO has staffed it with 16 teachers, 10 of whom are foreigners, 6 Germans, two gringos and two more European. They have 80 students now but I believe are aiming at 150 or so.)

I hope you succeed in getting Zamorano to take 2 canarios. I have a high opinion of those people, as I have of all Spaniards, but when they get above the secundaria and begin to consider themselves profesionales they they dont it is very appropriate to machete la grama or ordeñar las vacas con sus propias manos. I got that impression of the students from the Facultad de Agronomia who were attending a summer course at Cordoba some years ago. I was asked to give them a couple of lectures. One was devoted to soil surveying from a practical angle. I told how we did it in UFCO. I didnt use enough big words and I am afraid emphasized the use of the soil auger too much. The job should be done in the laboratory - I believe they thought.

I sure am glad you are going to prepare the mango trees for Zamorano. We have fallen down badly on mangos and avocados during the last five years or more. We have failed to maintain the avocado collection and we have failed to get the half dozen or so new mango varieties from Florida which we lack. We could get nothing done during the regime of Dr Radspinner. Let us hope this is rapidly coming to an end.

I hope you may be coming down this way again before long and that I will have an opportunity to see you.



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May 22, 1972

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de La Nobleza No. 2
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doc:

Thank you for your letter of May 1, regarding Sapodilla and Sapote cultivars. Your suggestions are very good and are certainly appreciated. Let me know what Dña. Lulu Hempstead has to say about some of these names.

I have just returned from New York attending the meeting of The Board. Hugh and I roomed together and had a chance to "Cambiar impresiones" as he puts it. Looks like progress in the School is slow but steady. Some minor mistakes have been made both at the Board level and at EAP's. Now with Hugh at the "timón" things look very bright, indeed. I was made Chairman of the "Academic Standards Committee", which gives me the authority to intervene in curriculum and faculty matters in a more forceful way.

The matter of raising the tuition came up again and I was surprised that Don Chico de Sola was completely in favor of raising it immediately over the \$300.00 level. He even spoke of going to an annual \$1000.00. This concerns me very much because he is the Latin American of highest rank in the Board and the other North American members would think that he speaks this way because of his profound knowledge of Central American conditions and that perhaps there are good reasons for raising the tuition. Hugh will perhaps elaborate on this whenever he sees you.

Best regards to you and Alice. Your operation was not known to us but I am glad you are fine.

Sincerely,

SIMON E. MALO
Assoc. Horticulturist

SEM:er



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November 28, 1972

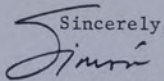
Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2
La Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doc:

Thank you for your informative letter of November 10. Our plans for releasing the Sapodilla and Sapote cultivars (cultivated varieties) are still a few years from target date. We need to test them a few years more with at least 10 trees, to be able to offer some data on production habits, quality, shelf life, etc.. Our Cubans are buying everything we can produce (which is not very much). There are instances in which \$30.00 have been paid for a good plant in a container of a good quality Sapote. As you can see this is ridiculous, but 350 thousand Cubans cannot be that wrong. There must be something to this fruit which perhaps we fail to appreciate. Cubans have definitely been a blessing for the South Florida Tropical Fruit Industry. Prices for avocados are excellent in the last 5 years, and net earnings per acre have gone up as high as \$2,000.00/acre, even higher for the more efficient growers. For mangos the situation is similar, my cooperator, Mr. Gross (I have taken you to his orchard) netted last year \$1,700.00/acre, and we expect next year to be even better because one of his varieties was top worked 4 years ago and production has been rising steadily. This profit is for on-the-tree fruit, he sells this way because he is an older man (67) and wants to avoid the headaches of picking. One of my "Cubiches" buys the fruit, gives me the tree production records and we all benefit from the bargain.

Perhaps I can make the Samorano meeting. If I go I will take Mary and my daughter to show them the school of which I talk so much.

Best regards to you and Alice.

Sincerely,

S. E. MALO
Associate Horticulturist

SEM:er



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Enero 4, 1973

A los graduados y amigos de la Escuela Agrícola Panamericana

Estimados amigos:

Recientemente el Sr. Robert P. Armour presentó su renuncia como Director de la Escuela Agrícola Panamericana (Zamorano), a la cual ha servido abnegadamente durante los últimos 5 años. El propósito de esta es informarles que se ha formado un comité para buscar y seleccionar la persona más competente para dirigir la Escuela en los próximos años. Además de un nuevo Director necesitamos 3 competentes profesionales para Directores Asociados y un jefe del departamento de Fitotecnia (Agronomía - Horticultura).

Como Uds. probablemente saben, la Escuela es una institución autónoma que ofrece educación agrícola a aquellos muchachos latino-americanos sin los medios para obtenerla por ellos mismos. Sin lugar a duda El Zamorano gradúa los mejores "Agrónomos" en la América Latina, guiado por la filosofía de que la práctica en agricultura es tan importante como la teoría. Manteniéndose al margen de la política, El Zamorano ha ganado una reputación internacional por sus inmensas contribuciones a nuestros países tropicales y, por consiguiente, los cargos de Director y Directores Asociados son de importancia crucial en el campo de la educación agrícola en nuestro hemisferio. Es por esto que no solamente buscamos personas con el entrenamiento y la experiencia, sino lo que es más importante, con el entusiasmo y la dedicación que se equiparen con las oportunidades del cargo. Como miembro del comité de selección quiero invitarles a que nos ayuden a buscar a los profesionales más indicados para estos importantes puestos. También les quiero solicitar que den a esta invitación la mayor distribución posible, especialmente entre personas que creen que el ayudar al que no puede estudiar por faltarle los medios, es guiarse por los principios que dieron vida al concepto Zamorano.

Simón E. Malo

Simón E. Malo
Comité Académico
Junta de Regentes



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January 22, 1974

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2
La Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doc:

Just a few lines to inquire how you are doing. I recently talked to Hugh and he indicated that you had an operation which apparently was not a major one. I sincerely hope you are doing fine now.

We missed you very much during graduation ceremonies in Zamorano, apparently this one has been one of the few you have not attended in a long time. Kermit Adams is doing very well so far. He has made a very good impression in the small Zamorano community and everyone appears to like him. He maintains a very close, personal contact with the student and he makes himself available to anybody who wants to talk to him. He is a highly enthusiastic, communicative man who understands agricultural education. So far, I think we made a good choice.

Regarding some local news, I want to tell you that Mrs. Krome had an accident 4 weeks ago and broke her hip. Apparently the break was not too serious because she is doing fine now, already out of bed and walking with a cane. She is in great spirits and apparently enjoying the many visitors she had after the accident occurred.

Hugh tells me we may see you here in Florida during the coming April. I hope it is true. Please say hello to Alice.

Con un abrazo,

S. E. MALO
Associate Professor
(Associate Horticulturist)

SEM:er



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April 23, 1974

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2
La Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doc:

It was nice hearing from you again. I understand you're doing fine. I was with Kitty Coolidge recently and she tells me her mother has been with you in Guatemala and has found you very well, for which I am very glad.

I am not sure whether I can find one extra copy of Ruehle's avocado bulletin. It has been out of print for quite a while and we had not been successful in getting it printed again. It is rather expensive you know, and during these days of accountability you have to justify the air you breathe. I will try to find an extra copy for your personal use. Actually I have been asked to write a new bulletin with new, up to date information, particularly on varieties. However, my coming trip to Thailand will interfere with its preparation, so this work will have to wait till next year. I am leaving for Bangkok this coming August where I will stay until August, 1975. I will teach, conduct research and help establish an Experiment Station for Kasetsart University. The whole family is going and we are all looking forward to this sabbatical.

I have the 'Reed' variety in Las Palmas, Canary Islands where I took it from California. I can give Sarazola budwood anytime. I will get in touch with him personally.

We just had a meeting of the board's exec. committee in Boston and had an opportunity to see Kermit Adams. This man appears to be doing well and I hear very good things from the students, professors and alumni.

When are you coming to Florida? Say hello to Alice.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

SIMON E. MALO
Associate Professor
(Associate Horticulturist)

SEM:er



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May 13, 1974

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doc:

I have been able to locate this old copy among my colleagues. It is in poor condition but is the only one I can offer you at this moment. As I mentioned to you in my last letter I will be writing another bulletin but not before I return from this tentative year's stay in Thailand.

I was with Hugh in our recent (May 3) meeting of the Board in Miami. He is doing fine but busy as usual and I could not talk to him very long.

My best regards to Alice and you.

Sincerely,

SIMON E. MALO
Associate Professor
(Associate Horticulturist)

SEM:er
Encl.