their floras and faunas provide fascinating topics for biological research, and numerous papers are devoted to various aspects of plant and animal physiology and ecology. Desert soils, geomorphology, and climate, likewise claim their share of the research papers and review articles. The Journal is well printed, lavishly illustrated, and each volume is provided with comprehensive indexes. It is subscribed to by leading libraries and institutions throughout the world.

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Northernmost Land on Earth?

The most northerly point on the mainland of Greenland is Kap Morris Jessup (83°39'N.) and until recently it was thought to be the most northerly point of land in the world. Danish geophysicists, however, have now determined that a tiny island, most often hidden by sea-ice, must be considered the most northerly land. The place-name committee for Greenland has decided that this island be named after the Polar Eskimo Otaq, from Thule, who 'drove' Peary's sled on his North Pole expedition in 1909.

It should be pointed out that Otaq's Island is not recommended as a tourist spot, say the editors of the newssheet published by the Danish *Arktisk Institut*—as quoted in *Information North*, newsletter of the Arctic Institute of North America, which is now housed at the University of Calgary, 11th Floor Library Tower, 2500 University Tower NW, Calgary, Alberta T2N IN4, Canada.

The International Foundation for Science

Founded in 1972, the International Foundation for Science (IFS) is a nongovernmental organization with a membership of 65 scientific academies and research councils in 58 countries, of which two-thirds are in developing countries and one-third in industrial countries. The Foundation is governed by an international Board of Trustees, with the Secretariat located at Sibyllegatan 47, S-114 42 Stockholm, Sweden.

The Foundation provides young scientists and technologists of outstanding merit from developing countries with financial and other support in their work. Criteria for a grant are the scientific quality and potential of the proposed research project and its relevance to the needs of the country.

—Grantees must be native to, and carry out the research in, a Third World country.
—The IFS currently supports research in the fields of applied biology, agriculture, and rural technology (*see* below).
—The grants enable research workers to purchase special equipment and expendable supplies. Normally, the grants are limited to the amount of US$ 10,000 per period, for not more than four periods.
—The communication and sharing of scientific information between the grantees themselves and between grantees and senior advisers, is encouraged and promoted by regional meetings and visits to project sites.
—Research is conducted in 69 countries in Asia, Africa, Oceania, and Latin America.
—There were 578 grants awarded between 1974 and January 1982.

At present eleven countries, and UNESCO, contribute to the Foundation's budget—normally by government grants made through academies or research councils. The budget for 1981 was slightly more than two million United States dollars. The institutes of the grantees contribute the grantees' salaries and basic support for their research—often with amounts that are several times as high as the Foundation's grants.

The present scientific areas of interest and support are the following:

1) *Aquaculture*:—Research on fish and shellfish to develop local fish-farming; fry production, including artificial spawning; feeding, genetic improvement, cultivation techniques; useful aquatic plants.
2) *Animal production*:—Development of new feed-resources and methods for dry-season feeding; introduction of improved animal production systems, with research on neglected animal species and collection of basic information on performance of local breeds; prolonging storage-life of animal products.
3) *Vegetables, oil-seeds, and fruits*:—Crops of value particularly in subsistance agriculture; research on plant physiology and pathology; genetic improvement for higher yield and disease-resistance; cultivation techniques, disease control, and drought resistance; plant–soil–water relationships, soil microbiology; methods for improved storage and simple processing.
4) *Mycorrhiza and afforestation*:—Symbioses between Fungi and roots of trees or agricultural plants; research in physiology, ecology, and symbiotic efficiency, of different Fungi; inoculation methods; reafforestation methods for tropical countries.
5) *Fermentation and applied microbiology*:—Traditional fermentation processes, research on mycotoxins; new methods for food preparation; storage of food; biogas.
6) *Natural products*:—Utilization, isolation, and investigation, of useful compounds from plants; search for new sources of plant-derived chemicals; structure elucidation; phytochemical and pharmacological investigations, including ethnobotanic studies; cultivation.
7) *Rural technology*:—Low-cost technology for rural and agricultural construction, particularly with locally-available materials; examples from fish-ponds, human dwellings, animal housing, drying and storage facilities, small-scale energy plants for villages or farms, and water systems.

At present, 58 countries have IFS member organizations.

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