

Inauguration Address

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Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Guests and Participants:

As chairman of the Organizing Committee of this Symposium, I wish to express our cordial welcome to everyone participating here, especially to those distinguished delegates from overseas. It is my sincere hope that your short stay in Japan will be a pleasant and fruitful one.

Since 1967, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Research Council of Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Japan has been holding annually an international Symposium to discuss various problems in the technology of tropical and subtropical agriculture in the Southeast Asia. In 1970 Tropical Agriculture Research Center was established, which immediately took up the sponsorship of the annual Symposium.

With the support and cooperation of many scientists and technologists from Asian countries and from international organizations, it has been recording success after success taking up such topics as farm mechanization, insect pest of rice, and food legumes.

This year the Center has chosen "Animal Research" as the theme, and I was asked to prepare and organize the Symposium. To every country, animal production, I believe, will bear increasing importance to solve the problem of food supply to human race from the viewpoint of animal protein and conversion of farm residue and grass resources into food.

Researches in animal production, has wide range of relationship with animal hygiene and grassland research. Even in the narrower sense, it involves an extremely wide and varied fields of researches, such as improvement of animal breeds, raising reproductive efficiency, improvement of livestock management, especially rationalization of feeding methods, controlling of pollution originating from livestock farming, and treatment and utilization of animal products. Therefore, considering the short period of this Symposium, our theme will be primarily "Animal Research" in its narrower sense.

From this standpoint, two main themes are set for this Symposium. They are:

- 1) Present status and problems in animal research in the Southeast Asiatic countries.
- 2) Recent trend and activities in researches in animal production in Japan.

From the nature of the Symposium, technological, rather than economic, discussion is considered appropriate.

I hope not only the discussion and exchange of informations we conduct here at this Symposium on animal research will achieve a great success, but also, availing of this opportunity, the future intercourse in our research fields will become stronger.

Finally, I beg everyone present here will contribute to the success of this Symposium with your cooperation and discussion.

Thank you for listening.