



Alemayan85 in National and International Agricultural Research



ALEMAYAN 1985
Embrace Gratitude Inspire Innovation

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| HQ | • Bayush |
| Adet | • Aleligné |
| Bako | • Lema G. & Solomon A |
| Holeta | • Elias Z |
| Jimma | • Kassahun S |
| Werer | • Zerihun, Kidane, Endale, Gizaw |
| Melkassa | • Adugna K, Dereje A |
| Sheno | • Sisay L. |
| Sinana | • Alemayehu M |
| S&T | • Abeba B, Beyene, Girma Y. |



Background



ALEMAYAN 1985
Embrace Gratitude Inspire Innovation

- The 1984-85 famine triggered massive displacement, prompting the government to launch the "Emergency Resettlement" program.
- Aimed to move 1.5 million people from drought-stricken northern highlands to the south/southwest, with over 600,000 moved by 1986. were moved to fertile western regions.
- Villagization began on a small scale in selected regions of Ethiopia in 1984 and was officially launched as a national campaign the following year.
- By 1987, 5.7 million people had been relocated into 11,000 new villages.



Abobo, Aossoa, Pawe Agricultural Research Centers at the Resettlement Areas

Institute of Agricultural Research (IAR)

1986-1990s



New Agricultural Research Centers



ALEMAYAN 1985
Embrace Gratitude Inspire Innovation

To help settlers and development agencies in the region with the aim of providing region-specific solutions.

In unprecedented circumstances, a bunch of us were assigned to the IAR. Then IAR assigned us to the newly established centers.

Abobo

- Abdishekur
- Aderajew
- Woldeyesus

Asosa

- Assefa
- Mohammed
- Mosisa

Pawe

- Kiros
- Melaku
- Mussie



New Agricultural Research Centers



ALEMAYAN 1985
Embrace Gratitude Inspire Innovation

Reported to duty Q1 of 1986, received by 1 researcher, 1TA, 1FA

Transportation: Road trip=3d AA-Asosa; 2d AA-Pawe;

Accommodation: Tent/hut; shared room; temp offices, storage &etc

Group training: @Bako, Werer, Melkassa, Awassa

Camp life/student life all-over again

Laudable motivational support and arrangement by IAR, Government

Abobo

- Jimma ARC
- Hotel to Shared house
- Dormmates**
- Gambella
- WS_IRC; AH - US
- AW - Δprofession

Asosa

- Bako ARC
- Hotel to Tent
- Dept_mates
- Asosa
- MW-CIMMYT
- AT - Δprofession

Pawe

- Nazret ARC
- Hut to better hut
- Dormmates***
- Chagni
- MG&KM, MS Alemaya
- MG - IITA, K Mekele Univ
- MZ - Δprofession



Asosa Agric. Research Center



ALEMAYAN 1985
Embrace Gratitude Inspire Innovation



Asosa

Wollega Admin Region

Beni-Shangul Gumuz



History of the center

➤ The center originally known as **Assosa research station**, was undertaken research activities under the close supervision of **Bako research center**.

➤ The station was put up on an area of **271.84** ha in village **12** with few **research staff supporting the agricultural activities of the** settlers with research was the primary objective.

➤ After some years of operations, the center was totally destroyed during in 1982 **E.C.**

➤ Again started in **1997 E.C.** and

➤ Renovated and expanded by the Ethiopian Agricultural Research Organization (EARO) and currently called EIAR,



ALEMAYAN 1985
Embrace Gratitude Inspire Innovation



Current Status of Asosa



- **A total staff of 135 of which 33 (8 female) are researchers, 88 Admin, and 14 contractors**
- **Areas of Research**
 1. **Crop Research (Maize, Sorghum, rice, teff, Oil crops, Vegetables, Fruit crops, Medicinal plants)**
 2. **Soil and Water**
 3. **Livestock (Poultry, Forage, Apiculture, Dairy, Goat, Sheep, Vetirenary)**
 4. **Agricultural Extension**



Abobo Agric. Research Center



ALEMAYAN 1985
Embrace Gratitude Inspire Innovation

- **Gambella**
- **Illubabor Admin Region**
- **Gambella**





Pawe Agric. Research Center

Metekel

NW Gojjam Admin Region

Beni-Shangul Gumuz



HOW IT STARTED



ALEMAYAN 1985
Embrace Gratitude Inspire Innovation



- **About Four Researchers and 5 technical assistants**
- **5-10 Admin staff including Administrator, Cashier, Accountant, store-keeper**



Offices

Residences





Field Work and trips



MG in the field



MZ MG KM



HAZARDS:

- **MALARIA INFESTED AREA**
- **SNAKES, RODENTS, SCORPIONS, BITING INSECTS ETC.**





Current Status of Pawe



- **A total staff of 212 of which 47 (10 female) are researchers, 165 Admin, and 14 contractors**
- **Areas of Research**
 1. **Six sub-stations:** 5 in Metekel and 1 in Awi administrative zones
 2. **Crop Research (Maize, Sorghum, Millet, Rice, Teff, Oil crops, Vegetables, Fruit crops, Medicinal plants)**
 3. **Soil and Natural Resources**
 4. **Livestock (Poultry, Forage, Apiculture, Dairy, Goat, Sheep, Vetirenary)**
 5. **Socio-economic and Agricultural Extension**



Research Activities



After arriving at our duty station, divided ourselves by discipline

Field crops/breeding; Agronomy; Protection; Forage

- Nurseries and Variety adaptation trials from established centers on many crops
 - Cereal crops-maize, sorghum, millets, tef;
 - Pulse and oil crops-soybean, haricot bean, ground nut, sesame, sunflower
- Agronomy and soil (planting date, spacing, weeding, fertilizer rates etc.)
- Horticultural crops (Pepper, Sweetpotato)
- Forage crops
- Crop protection: pathology and entomology



Research Outcomes



- Recommendation on the best adapted crops
- Recommendation on Agronomic and Protection practices
 - Planting date key due to long rainy season
 - Waterlogging problem – *Rice in Pawe
- Asosa: Recommended/released Tef variety and maize hybrid
- Abobo: Maize varieties; Fertilizer application rate
- Pawe: Partnered with Tana-Beles projects, Italian researchers, and identified adapted maize, sorghum, and peanut varieties



Legacy - Nationally



ALEMAYAN 1985
Embrace Gratitude Inspire Innovation

- Asosa: Gov-rebel conflict in Asosa (with casualties) in 1990; Reestablished in 2005; Staff displaced and never returned
- Pawe: All three had left by 1989; under EPRDF fighters in 1991, but there were no casualties.
- Abobo: Wolde served till 2010, Director of Crops at SARI, ABNE

Well-established on a solid foundation, all three centers are now active and vibrant.



International Agricultural Research Centers



Embrace Gratitude Inspire Innovation



Melaku Ayele Gedil, Principal Scientist, Molecular Genetics, IITA Nigeria



Mosisa Worku, Maize breeder and seed system specialist, CIMMYT, Kenya
(Retired)



Woldeyesus Sinebo, AUDA-NEPAD's African Biosafety Network of Expertise (ABNE), Uganda & Kenya
(Retired)



Habtermariam Kassa, Principal Scientist, Governance, Equity and Wellbeing (GEW), Ethiopia



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

November 2025



ALEMAYAN 1985

Embrace Gratitude Inspire Innovation



ALEMAYAN 1985

Embrace Gratitude Inspire Innovation

Proud Graduates of

Alemaya College of Agriculture

Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

Thank You