

# TRAINING IN AGRICULTURAL TECHNIQUES

As a means of aiding progress in improving food production, a seven-weeks training course on the use of radio-isotopes and radiation in soil and plant nutrition is to be held in Teheran, starting on 3 November. It will be open to scientists sponsored by Governments of countries in Africa, the Middle East, Asia and the Far East.

This training course forms part of the general programme of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (Technical Assistance) but arrangements are being made by the Agency on behalf of FAO, the two bodies being jointly responsible for it. The course is also being conducted in co-operation with the Agricultural Atomic Research Centre of the Iranian Ministry of Agriculture, Teheran.

It is thought that the course will be particularly suitable for scientists who have had some years of research experience and who, in the particular problems in which they are engaged, have reached the stage where knowledge of isotope and radiation techniques could enable them to make further progress. It has been designed to provide information and practical experience and thus lead to a means of increasing crop production through a better understanding of the soil-water-plant system. Lectures and experiments both in laboratories and in the field will be included.

Those taking part will be expected to have had graduate training, with special emphasis on the scientific principles underlying research in soil science, with preference given to those who have had at least a few years' practical experience in post-graduate research. It is also expected that they will be able to continue to make use of their training. For purposes of ensuring adequate individual attention, the number is being restricted to twenty, selected from the nominations by Governments,