IPNI NORTH AFRICA PROGRAM

SYMPHOS, Agadir May 6-10 2013

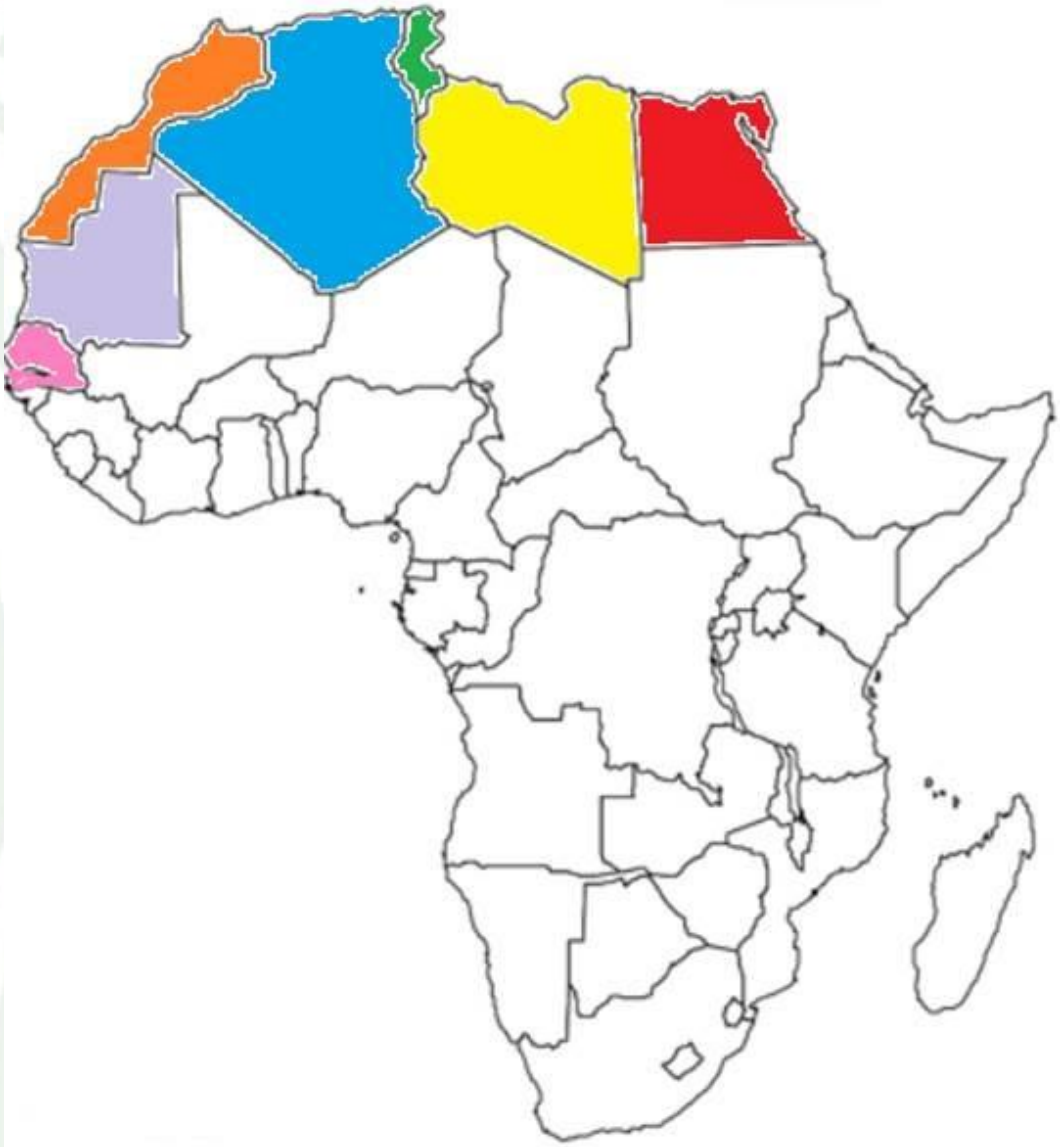
IPNI
INTERNATIONAL
PLANT NUTRITION
INSTITUTE

North Africa Program

North Africa IPNI program

The north Africa IPNI program includes seven countries:

1. Morocco,
2. Algeria,
3. Tunisia,
4. Libya,
5. Egypt,
6. Senegal
7. Mauritania.



Introduction

North Africa Agriculture is largely subsistence farming, and rainfed production. The socio-economic constraints are often as insurmountable as the biophysical ones, but an understanding of the social context in which farmers operate is essential to exploiting the region's natural resources and improving people's lives.

Introduction

Increasing demand for cereal crops and especially barley is attributed to increasing demand for livestock products and therefore for animal feed, as incomes rise in small holding farmers.

Therefore, crop and forage production must increase.

Fertilization is a key input factor for crop production and accounting for 50% increase in yield and should be considered in the integrated crop-livestock system.

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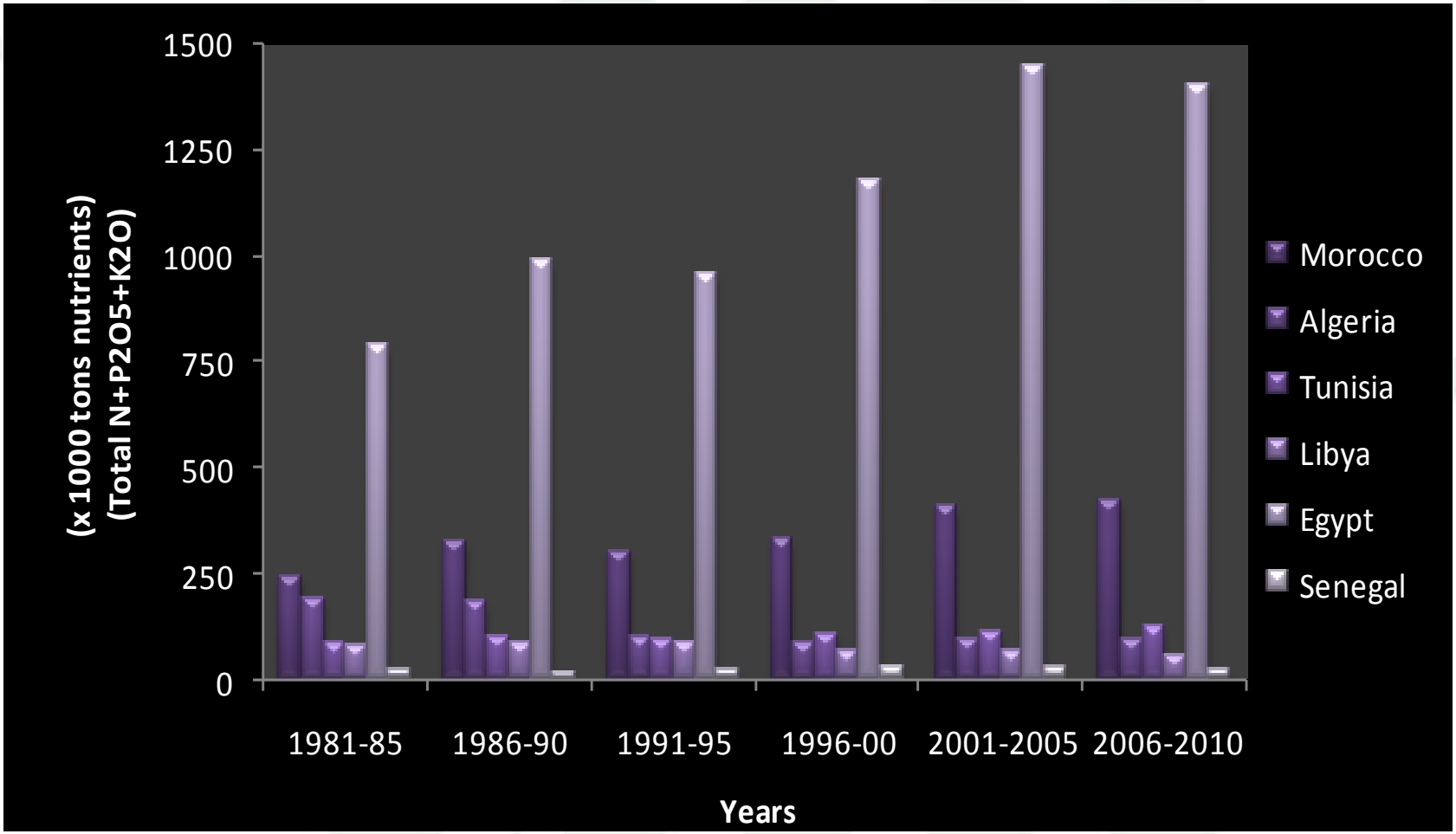
Fertilizer consumption

Fertilizers use in North Africa region is highly variable between countries. Among the seven countries of the NA IPNI Program, Egypt is the biggest consumer of fertilizers (average 500 kg/ha).

Fertilizer use in other countries barely covers 30 to 50% of the real need (average 50 kg/ha)

Fertilizer consumption



Fertilizer consumption

Given this fact, fertilizer use must increase in order to reverse the current trends of low crop productivity and land degradation and contribute to the global context of food security and alleviation of climate change effects in these areas

Goal

Knowing the fact that nutrients management in rainfed system is depending on rainfall distribution in time and space, the improvement of water and nutrient use efficiency is one of the priorities in these regions.

Goal

Therefore the main goal of the regional program is to establish a soil fertility network in the region dealing with nutrient best management practices to improve nutrient-use efficiency, and build up nutrient stocks in the soil.

Future planned activities

- Evaluation of nutrients management for cereal under conservation agriculture systems
- Evaluation of the IPNI Nutrient Expert Model in rainfed cropping system
- Improvement of capacity building on nutrient best management practices through trainings and field visits (FFS)
- Development of a research program on nutrient best management practices for:
  - Fruit trees (olives), Cereals (DW, Barely), and Vegetables

Conclusion

- The IPNI North Africa program will focus on providing leadership in plant nutrition research and development.
- Work in collaboration with national agricultural research and extension systems, Universities, International Agricultural Research Systems and other stakeholders,
- Collect and synthesize information on nutrient management and develop research programs to encourage fertilizer use in an efficient and economic ways, and environmentally friendly.
- Develop a data base on soil fertility and fertilizer in the region