

## **In Memoriam**

### **Dr. Basil David George Bartley**

**1927 – 2008**

*Scientists from CEPEC and CEPLAC, Brazil*

In the mid-1970's, Dr. Basil G. D. Bartley was invited by Dr. Paulo de Tarso Alvim, then the Director of CEPLAC, to co-ordinate the Brazilian programme for cocoa genetic improvement. Dr Bartley was selected for his outstanding research undertaken in cocoa breeding with experience in Trinidad and the African Islands of São Tomé and Príncipe. He competently conducted his activities in Brazil over a period of 15 years, up to 1990. During the first nine years, he worked at the Cocoa Research Center (CEPEC), where he developed an excellent research programme for the field use of hybrids. He also helped in the evaluation and further development of the CEPEC cocoa collection by introducing new clonal accessions from other countries and from the Brazilian Amazon, and he participated in several botanical expeditions to widen the genetic base of the cocoa collection. He also played an important role in the evaluation of hybrid progenies, and assisted fellow breeders in qualitatively improving the composition of the hybrid mixtures, deployed for commercial planting to growers. His second period at CEPLAC was in northern part of Brazil, Belém, where he had the opportunity to co-ordinate all actions related to cocoa improvement and, especially those related to the establishment of a native Amazon cocoa collection.

All of us, Brazilian cocoa breeders, are indebted to him for imparting his vast knowledge and his show of good will in transferring his experience in cocoa research. He will always be remembered as a good friend and a dedicated scientist with a humorous spirit and a hearty laugh. CEPLAC, and especially all those that worked closely with him, recognized Dr. Bartley's life experience as a great scientist, who contributed to the advancement of cocoa breeding. He also left behind this experience in his recent book, as a valuable, lasting document of dedicated experiences.

We cocoa lovers thank you and will remember you for your good deeds and friendship during your years in Brazil.

***May your soul rest in peace***