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German Democratic Republic

FDD Abstract [REDACTED]

GDR INSTITUTE FOR HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH (2 pp; German; [REDACTED])

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This report consists of a [REDACTED] copy of a report, [REDACTED] which contains the following information on the institute for Horticultural Research in Muencheberg/Mark Brandenburg:

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The Institute, which originated from the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Plant Cultivation, is subordinate to the GDR Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Since it is currently provided with [REDACTED] the Institute can carry out [REDACTED] However, recurring difficulties, such as sabotage by the workers and the lack of proper equipment and chemicals, prevent intensive work and full utilization of the funds allotted. The Director of the Institute since 1950, Dr. Martin Schmidt, is a figurehead only, since his function is completely controlled by Alexy (fnu), the political-administrative director, who was appointed by the Politburo of the SED (Socialist Unity Party). The Institute's most distinguished scientist, ~~ix~~ Professor Mudra, is ~~non~~ non-compromising in his opposition to the Michurin biological theory,

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The Institute conducts research and experimental cultivation in the following fields: a) fruit culture, in which excellent results have been obtained, for example, in the cultivation of high-quality, frost-resistant apples, frost-resistant plums, blight-resistant gooseberries, etc; b) lupine seed culture; in recent years improvements have been made in the cultivation of sweet lupine; c) oil-bearing gourd culture; noteworthy progress has been made in this field, and experiments are currently being conducted to determine economic utilization of the fruit; d) forestry cultivation; the Institute has an experimental forest of 660 hectares, where mainly pine, poplar, and birch trees are grown; e) cultivation of plants for use as fodder.

NOTE: The document includes an English translation of the first three paragraphs of this report [REDACTED]

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24 May 1951

Central Research Laboratory for Agricultural Research
Located at Muencheberg/Mark

The Institute is under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the DDR. It was created from ^{personnel of} the former Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Agricultural Research which was transferred after the end of the war to Voldagsen near Hameln and continues there within the framework of the Max-Planck Society. A large part of the stock and of the technological equipment was evacuated to the West. The remainder of the group left in Muencheberg was completely destroyed, that is to say it was dismantled. The buildings themselves were damaged relatively little.

Some of the former employees returned after the end of the war to Muencheberg. On the basis of special orders issued by Karlshorst, large quantities of material were made available for the reconstruction of this Institute. Even as late as now [REDACTED] project. Even though it is [REDACTED] to be carried out in some fields, particularly those which are affected by the working force and machinery of various types, there are recurring difficulties which prevent a continuing effort to be expended and which prevent the previously allocated materials from being fully utilized. In this way, for example in the last few years, the new and valuable material was repeatedly destroyed as a result of the unavailability of about 1 to 2 thousand meters of machine wire for the erection of fences around the "Lupinezuchtgaerten" to protect them from destruction by rabbits. Research activities are also stopped time and again for dearth of simple chemicals or of special equipment. A continuing nervousness on the part of employees as a result of political agitation and the dwindling of morale of the workers -- in part conscious sabotage was also practiced -- a similarly restricted ^{ive} influence is exerted on the developmental work.

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The Director of the Institute since 1950 is Dr. Martin Schmidt, ~~of the DT~~ who has been employed at the Institute since 1930. Since 1934 he has been the Chief of the Division for Fruit Culture. He is a very talented scientist and has achieved great success in the field of fruit culture. During the Nazi period he was acting as a denouncer (denunciant) in the removal of his colleagues from the Institute, and in the past few years has let himself be misused as the tool of Mitschurin biological theorists. As the functioning director he scarcely plays a role in the Institute, since he is fully dependent upon direction from the political administrative director, Alexy, fnu, who was appointed by the Politburo of the SED.

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