

# Summary

During the dry season in March 1986, researchers from the Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Forestales y Agropecuarias (INIFAP) in Mexico and the Tropical Pastures Program of CIAT, collected samples of forage legume germplasm throughout different states in Mexico with special emphasis on *Centrosema*.

During the collection a total of 84 stops were made according to climate, vegetation, and soil. In total, 393 samples were collected which were classified into 24 genera and 55 species. The highest diversity of species occurred in the Chiapas, Veracruz, Tabasco, and Guerrero states. The most frequently occurring genus was *Centrosema* and within this genus *C. pubescens* (43%), *C. macrocarpum* (18%), and *C. plumieri* (18%), had the greatest natural distribution. The most frequent genera and the number of samples within each genus were: *Centrosema* (77), *Desmodium* (65), *Calopogonium* (36), *Aeschynomene* (27), *Rhynchosia* (26), *Vigna/Phaseolus* (33), and *Macroptilium* (21).