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EXTENSION AGENTS' AND RESEARCHERS' PERCEPTIONS OF
LINKAGES BETWEEN THE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION SYSTEMS IN
SAN CRISTOBAL, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

A Thesis

Presented in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
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by

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The technology transfer process is one of the major concerns in the rural development of any country in the world (Rau, 1981). Technology transfer is a fundamental process that affects the economic performance of nations (Sahal, 1985). Technology transfer is defined as a process in which research results are transferred from the research centers to the users (Molestina, 1984). Therefore, the goal of technology transfer is accomplished when innovations are adopted by the users (Arya, 1981). Since the transfer of technology can increase agricultural productivity, the transfer process must be a part of a nation's agricultural development plan.

According to Arya (1981), there are three interrelated systems which make the technology transfer process efficient: a) the research and technology system, which involves the generation of technology, b) the extension and diffusion system which transfers the technology to the users, and c) the technology utilization system, which supports the technology transfer process by providing necessary resources. For the purpose of this study, the research and extension systems were studied. The extension