## **Abstract**

In 1978 a project was initiated by CSIRO to assess the feasibility of a new Dryland cropping system in the semi arid tropics (SAT) of northern Australia. This research led to the development of KARI /ACIAR /CSIRO Dryland project in the Kenyan SAT. The research undertaken in Australia unquestionably benefited research in Kenya and converse was equally true. The resulting transfer of information between the two locations was achieved through models which could account for the temporal and spatial variation in the soil and climatic influences in crop production.