



## PRIME MINISTER

Press Statement No. 464  
11 March 1975

### VISIT OF SOVIET PLANT INDUSTRY DELEGATION

The Prime Minister and Acting Foreign Minister, Mr E.G. Whitlam, and the Minister for Science, Mr Bill Morrison, announced today that a party of five Soviet plant scientists will arrive in Perth on Thursday morning, 13 March. The group is visiting Australia for two weeks under the auspices of the Australian/Soviet Science Agreement.

During its Australian visit the Soviet plant scientists will have discussions with Australian scientists to map out possible areas where subsequent Australian/Soviet collaboration in the plant sciences can be developed.

The Soviet plant scientists will visit the Western Australia Department of Agriculture and the C.S.I.R.O. Division of Land Resources Management in Perth, and the Waite Institute and the C.S.I.R.O. Divisions of Soils and of Horticultural Research in Adelaide. At Griffith the Soviet group will inspect work at the C.S.I.R.O. Division of Irrigation Research. In Canberra visits will be paid to the C.S.I.R.O. Divisions of Plant Industry and of Land Use Research and the Australian National University. The Soviet group will then go to Sydney, and have discussions at the University of Sydney, Macquarie University, and the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture. During visits to Tamworth and Armidale the Soviet plant scientists will call at the National Wheat Collection and the University of New England. Their program concludes with a visit to the C.S.I.R.O. Division of Tropical Agronomy in Brisbane.

Mr Whitlam and Mr Morrison said that a group of Australian plant scientists, led by Dr L.T. Evans, planned to pay a return visit to the Soviet Union in mid-year to finalise the program of co-operation in plant sciences that would be recommended to the Australian and Soviet Governments.

The members of the visiting Soviet plant industry group are:

Academician A.V. Pukhalsky,  
All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences;  
Dr M.N. Rodin, USSR Ministry of Agriculture;  
Academician K.Z. Boodin, All-Union Institute of  
Plant Industry;