

# Colin Leakey

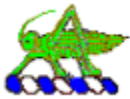
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**Colin Louis Avern Leakey** (born 13 December 1933, Cambridge, England) is a leading plant scientist in the United Kingdom, a Fellow of King's College, Cambridge and of the Institute of Biology, and a world authority on beans.

## Background

Colin Leakey is the son of Louis Seymour Bazett Leakey (1903–1972), the African archaeologist, and Frida Leakey, of Newnham College, Cambridge. He is the elder half-brother of both Richard Erskine Frere Leakey, the Kenyan paleontologist and conservationist, and Philip Leakey, the Kenyan politician. The paleontologists Meave Leakey and Louise Leakey are Colin Leakey's sister-in-law and niece.

## Education



Gresham's

After Gresham's School, Holt, Leakey served his national service in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, including a year on the staff of Lord Mountbatten who was then Commander in Chief of the Mediterranean Fleet. Leakey then studied physiology, biochemistry, botany and the history and philosophy of science for a first degree at Cambridge University in Natural Sciences. He later trained in tropical agriculture and tropical plant pathology at Exeter University and the University of the West Indies, Trinidad, receiving a postgraduate Diploma in Tropical Agriculture, specializing in tropical plant pathology. At Exeter, he was awarded the Currie Memorial Prize.

In 1972, having already taught doctoral students at Makerere University, Uganda, he was awarded a PhD by the University of Cambridge.

## Publications

- Background to current breeding work at Makerere University, Uganda (1970)
- Anthracnose resistance breeding in Pinto beans in Uganda using the ARE gene from Cornell (1970)
- Scope for breeding for improved protein content and quality in Dry Beans in Uganda (1970)
- Need one grow pure lines in developing Countries (Annual Report of the Bean Improvement Co-operative, 1970)
- The improvement of beans in East Africa (in Crop Improvement in East Africa, ed. C.L.A. Leakey, Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau, (1970)

- Races of *Colletotrichum lindemuthianum* and implications for bean breeding in Uganda (Annual of Applied Biology, with A. Simbwa-Bunnya, 1971)
- Bean Rust studies in Uganda (with J. Atkins & J. Magara, Annual Report of the Bean Improvement Co-operative, 1972)
- Crop Index in Beans (Annual Report of the Bean Improvement Co-operative, 1972)
- Factors affecting increased production and marketing of food crops in Uganda (East African Journal of Rural Development, 1972)
- The effect of plant population and fertility level on the yield and its components in two determinate cultivars of *Phaseolus vulgaris* (Journal of Agricultural Science 1972)
- A note on *Xanthomonas* blight of beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris* (L.) Savi) and prospects for its control by breeding for tolerance (Euphytica 1973)
- Potentials of field beans and other food legumes in Latin America (1974)
- Making use of germplasm collections (Bean Improvement Co-operative Annual Report 1975)
- Effective rhizobium inoculation in beans - a mini review (Annual Report of the Bean Improvement Co-operative 1977)
- Collecting diary of Dr and Mrs C.L.A. Leakey, Spain 4-23 September 1979 (report in two volumes for CIAT, 1979)
- Phenotype and Corresponding Genotypic Descriptors for *Phaseolus vulgaris* (International Board for Plant Genetic Resources, Rome, 1982)
- Genotypic and Phenotypic markers in Common Bean (1988)
- Breeding on the C, J and B loci for modification of bean seed-coat flavonoids with the objective of improving food acceptability (Bean Improvement Co-operative Annual Report 1992)
- Beans - Past, Present and Future: a Ugandan Perspective (African Crop Science Conference Proceedings, 1994)
- A survey of beans in relation to their consumption and cooking characteristics carried out in Kenya during January and February 1994 (with G Njeri-Maina, J.K. Kamau & S.M.W. Munene (Food Research Institute, Norwich, 1994)
- Beans, Fibre, Health and Gas (with C. Harbach, Royal Society of Chemistry, 1995)
- Flatulence, a re-examination of the causes, and the development of improved technology for direct volumetric measurement and determination of organic volatiles in flatus (with C. Harbach, Proceedings of the Second European Conference on Grain Legumes, Copenhagen 1995)
- Breeding *Phaseolus* beans for consumer quality (Grain Legumes, 1996)
- Mantecas, a new class of beans *Phaseolus vulgaris* of enhanced digestibility (with G. Hosfield & A. Dubois, Proceedings of the Third European Conference on Grain Legumes, Valladolid 1998)
- Progress in developing dry *Phaseolus* beans for Britain, Protection and Production of Combinable Break Crops (Aspects of Applied Biology, 1999)
- Progress in developing tannin-free dry *Phaseolus vulgaris* (Bean Improvement Co-operative Biennial Conference Proceedings, Calgary, Canada, 1999)