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**\$8,000 MILES LABORATORIES GRANT
TO SUPPORT PAPAYA PLANT STUDY AT UM**

MISSOULA--

The Marschall Division of Miles Laboratories Inc., Elkhart, Ind., has awarded \$8,000 to the University of Montana in Missoula to support a scientific project entitled the "Study of Proteolytic Enzymes in Carica Papaya L. Tissue Cultures."

Dr. Rustem S. Medora, associate professor of pharmacy at UM and project coordinator, said the purpose of the study is to manipulate the papaya plant cells into producing proteolytic enzymes under laboratory conditions. Proteolytic enzymes are substances which break up proteins.

"The enzymes produced from higher plants have been used in medicine and industry," Medora said.

Medora will work jointly on the project with two other UM faculty members, Dr. Galen P. Mell, associate professor of chemistry, and Dr. David E. Bilderback, assistant professor of botany. The study will continue until the spring of 1976. Funds will be used primarily to hire part-time help and buy basic chemicals and glassware.

Bilderback will be responsible for the growth of cultures used in the study, and Mell will work on the purification of the enzymes. Besides coordinating activities during the study, Medora will produce cells used in the project on a large scale.

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