

obtained is called "Sadumannu" or burnt earth. It is used for manuring all kinds of crops such as sugarcane, chillies, brinjals and other vegetables and paddy nursery—and all with very good results.

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*Farm Manager*

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### **Report on Single seedling Planting in green manured lands.**

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In the beginning of June '14 (end of Edavam)  $2\frac{1}{2}$  edangalis of cowgram ( $1\frac{1}{8}$  madras measure) were sown on 25 cents of single crop land and 5 edangalis arigan seed were sown on 5 cents of nursery. The only operations done to the seed bed were that 5 baskets of cow-dung manure were applied and the nursery was ploughed twice. The nursery was treated quite similar to broad casted fields and one hand weeding was given to it. The other 25 cents of land were ploughed twice before sowing the cowgram, with an idea that the seedlings would be sufficient to transplant the 25 cents of land. I had ploughed the field twice and levelled after the lapse of 36 days and kept the land ready for planting. After 40 days the seedlings were pulled and tied into bunches. At the time of pulling the seedlings, it is the practice to get the nursery filled by water in order to remove the small lumps of earth which clings to the roots of the seedlings and then tie them into bunches. The seedlings were planted singly in rows of 9 inches to 1 foot apart in the aforesaid field. The crop was better in appearance than the ordinarily planted crops. The seedlings were sufficient to plant the whole plots. The planted seedlings began to tiller in a fortnight and put forth 8 to 12 tillers in 20 or 25 days. Ever since the crop was transplanted, there was rain enough for paddy crops. It came up well, improving in appearance day by day. This crop as well as other crops were affected with grasshopper which usually attack paddy, especially in this year. Even then the plants grew well with dark green appearance. The ears began to come out almost in all at the same time and ripened with well filled appearance and the crop was ripe enough for harvest one week before the ordinarily transplanted

crops. The produce of grain from 25 cents of land was 35 paras measured with an ordinary para (one para=6 madras measures) and the outturn of straw was 200 hand bundles. I am cultivating personally the above land for the last 4 years and, so far as my experience goes, there was never such an outturn from this land. The average yield was 7 paras per 1 paraland or 10 cents. Generally the above fields were irrigated with river water, but this year, as there was sufficient rain, no watering was required. An equal plot of field near the above plots was cultivated in the ordinary way and the outturn was 20 paras of paddy and 170 hand bundles of straw. This land was manured with 1 cart load of cowdung manure. The wages required for transplanting the former 25 cents were one and a half times more than what is required in the ordinary planting, whereas the quantity of seeds required for the former plots is nearly half of what is required to the other plots. In planting in rows there is the advantage of having greater interspace in weeding for the coolies to move about without damaging the plants. Having come to know the advantages of single planting I give out the results of my personal experiences so that others may derive similar benefits.

I therefore entreat all the cultivators to bestow their careful attention on all these points and to adopt in practice this good and profitable method of single planting in green manured lands without entertaining any doubts in their minds.

Parai }  
1-3-1915. }

V. PONNAN PILLAI.

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### The Coconut Palm.

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It has been said that there are as many uses for the Coconut Tree as there are days in the year and, though perhaps this is not quite accurate, there is no doubt it is one of the most useful trees in existence and no part of it from the leaf to the root is wasted. The cultivation, therefore, of such a useful tree is worthy of more attention than is usually given to it.