

came up to Rs. 20. As the effort was the first of its kind, the cost might be 25% more than was necessary. About 3000 canes were the outturn. The cultivation was not intensive. Almost every farmer, big or small, could easily attempt this venture on a small scale in the first instance, and observing the results, expand the cultivation.

The growing of paddy and paddy alone is monotonous work and drab, and this accounts for the indifferent cultivation one sees everywhere. There is a friend of mine, who, with an oil engine installation, grows sugarcane and plantains, and it is paying him.

## Crop & Trade Reports.

**Castor—First or Final Report—Madras—1935.** The average of the areas under castor in the Madras Presidency during the five years ending 1933-'34, has represented 20 per cent of the total area under castor in India. The area under castor in the Madras Presidency up to the 25th November 1935 is estimated at 261,700 acres. When compared with the area of 289,200 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals a decrease of 9.5 per cent. The estimate for last year was above the actual area of 278,131 acres by about 4 per cent. The decrease is general outside Ganjam, Vizagapatam, East Godavari, Bellary, Chingleput, North Arcot, Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Ramnad, Tinnevely and the West Coast. The yield is expected to be 99 per cent of the normal as against 79 per cent in the previous year according to the season and crop report. On this basis, the yield is estimated at 25,800 tons as against 26,100 tons estimated for the corresponding period of last year and 22,780 tons estimated in the season and crop report of last year. The wholesale price of Castor seed per imperial maund of 82-2/7 lbs. as reported from important markets towards the close of November 1935, was Rs. 6 in Berhampore, Rs. 5-5-0 in Vizianagaram, Rs. 5-4-0 in Madura, Rs. 5-1-0 in Cocanada and Rs. 5 in Vizagapatam, Ellore, Bezwada and Guntur and ranged from Rs. 4-2-0 to Rs. 4-15-0 in the other markets. When compared with the prices reported at the corresponding date of last year, these prices reveal a rise of 33 per cent in Vizagapatam, Vizianagaram and Ellore, 31 per cent in Guntur, 30 per cent in Vellore, 16 per cent in Salem, and 7 to 10 per cent in the other markets.

**Paddy—Intermediate report—Madras—1935-36.** The main crop of paddy has been harvested in parts of the Circars, the Deccan and the West Coast. The yield is reported to be slightly above normal in South Canara, normal in Kistna, the Deccan and Malabar and below normal in the other districts. The main crop of paddy under rainfed tanks in parts of the Nellore district has been affected by drought to some extent. In Tanjore, the early samba varieties have been adversely affected by the high winds in November and rains in December and in parts of the districts of Trichinopoly, Ramnad and Tinnevely, the crop has been affected a little by insects. The condition of the crop is fairly satisfactory in the other districts. The wholesale price of paddy per imperial maund of 82-2/7 lbs. as reported from important markets towards the close of December 1935 was Rs. 3-2-0 in Cuddapah, Rs. 3-1-0 in Salem, Rs. 2-13-0 in Nellore, Rs. 2-12-0 in Vellore, Erode, Trichinopoly and Madura, Rs. 2-11-0 in Vizianagaram, Rs. 2-10-0 in Nandyal, Rs. 2-8-0 in Berhampore, Rs. 2-6-0 in Tinnevely and ranged from Rs. 2-1-0 to Rs. 2-5-0 in the other markets. When compared with the prices reported in the previous month, these prices are stationary in Vizagapatam, Vizianagaram, Nandyal, Cuddapah, Vellore, Erode, Trichinopoly, Kumbakonam and Tinnevely; they have risen by eight per cent in Cuddalore, two per cent in Cocanada and Guntur and by one per cent in Ellore and are lower by 8 per cent in Madura, 7 per cent in Negipattin, 5 per cent in Rajahmundry, 4 per cent in Masulipatam and by one to 2 per cent in the other markets.



**Cotton—Intermediate Report—Madras—1935-36.** The Cocanadas cotton in parts of Guntur and Nellore and the dry cotton in the Vizagapatam district have been affected by drought to some extent. The crop has been affected with fungus disease in Cuddapah owing to cloudy weather and flowers are falling. The condition of the crop is fairly satisfactory in the other districts. The wholesale price of cotton lint per imperial maund of 82-2/7 lb. as reported from important markets towards the close of December 1935 was Rs. 20-7-0 for Cocanadas, Rs. 24-14-0 for Northerns, Rs. 19-8-0 for (early crop) Westerns, Rs. 28-2-0 for Cambodia, Rs. 26-11-0 for Coimbatore-Karunganni, Rs. 24-7-0 for Tinnevelly-Karunganni, Rs. 23-12-0 for Tinnevelles and Rs. 24-2-0 for Nadam. When compared with the prices in the previous month, these prices reveal a rise of six per cent in the case of Northerns and one per cent in the case of Westerns; they have fallen by two per cent in the case of Cambodia, Coimbatore-Karunganni and Nadam, five per cent in the case of Tinnevelles and six per cent in the case of Tinnevelly-Karunganni. The price of Cocanadas is stationary.

**Pepper—Final Report—Madras—1935.** The area under pepper in 1935 in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara is estimated at 90,500 acres in Malabar 8,500 acres in South Kanara as against the final area of 85,164 acres in Malabar and 7,581 acres in South Kanara in the previous year. The condition of the crop is fair. The crop is getting ready for harvest. The seasonal factor is estimated to be 90 per cent in each district as against 100 per cent in the previous year. On this basis, the yield is estimated at 12,200 tons for Malabar and 1,150 tons for South Kanara as against 13,300 tons for Malabar and 1,280 tons for South Kanara estimated in the previous year. The wholesale price of pepper per imperial maund of 82-2/7 lb. as reported from important markets towards the close of December 1935 was Rs. 15-12-0 in Calicut, Rs. 14-1-0 in Cochin. Rs. 13-1-0 in Tellicherry and Rs. 14-8-0 in Mangalore. When compared with the prices reported in August 1935, these prices have fallen by about 14 per cent in Calicut, 13 per cent in Tellicherry and Mangalore and 12 per cent in Cochin.

**Gingelly—Third Report Madras—1935-36.** The average of the areas under gingelly in the Madras Presidency during the five years ending 1933-34 has represented 12 per cent of the total area under gingelly in India. The area sown with gingelly up to the 25th December 1935 is estimated at 500,600 acres. When compared with the area of 462,600 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals an increase of 8.2 per cent. The increase in area is general outside Vizagapatam, East Godavari, South Arcot, North Arcot, Salem and South Kanara. The increase is marked in Trichinopoly (18,500 acres). There has been a marked decrease in Salem (16,700 acres). The main crop has been harvested except in the south where the harvest is in progress. The crop suffered from drought to some extent and the yield is reported to be below normal except in East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna, the Deccan, Salem, Ramnad and South Kanara. The seasonal factor for the Presidency works out to 92 per cent of the average as against 84 per cent for the corresponding period of last year. On this basis, the yield is estimated at 61,700 tons as against 53,300 tons for the corresponding period of last year, an increase of about 16 per cent.

**Ginger—Final Report—Madras—1935.** The area under ginger in 1935 is estimated at 11,800 acres in Malabar as against the actual area of 11,733 acres in the previous year. The seasonal factor is estimated at 80 per cent of the normal as against 70 per cent in the previous year. On this basis, the crop is expected to yield 3,370 tons of dry ginger as against 2,750 tons in the previous year. The wholesale price of dry ginger at Calicut towards the close of December 1935 was Rs. 27-10-0 per imperial maund of 82-2/7 lb. When compared with the price reported towards the close of August 1935, there has been a rise of 4.4 per cent.