

The importance in connection with stomach ulcers of nervous over-secretion of acid by the stomach was emphasised by Dr. Winkelstein.—Science Service. (*Scientific American*, September 1937).

Oil and Cake Products from Coffee. It is stated that German chemists have been co-operating with the Brazilian authorities in order to discover uses for the surplus Brazil coffee crop and that the President of the National Coffee Department has received a report from the Brazilian technical representative in Germany reporting the success of an experiment for the extraction of subproducts from coffee. It is claimed that 13% of high quality oil has been extracted from coffee beans, compared with 20% extracted from soya beans, while the residue provides first class cattle cake. It is hoped that the discovery will in future prevent the unnecessary destruction of surplus coffee. (*Chemistry and Industry*, September 18, 1937.)

Review.

The Punjab Fruit Journal. Feroz Printing Works, Lahore.

The *Punjab Fruit Journal* is a quarterly journal and an organ of the Punjab Provincial Co-operative Fruit Development Board. It is perhaps the first of its kind in India, and the most important feature of the Journal is its bilingual character. The articles are published in English and in Urdu. The journal meets the keen demand that exists for popular literature on cultivation of fruit plants, and preservation of fruits. It aims at building up the fruit industry of the Punjab on scientific and economic basis and it has rendered much help in uniting the fruit growers, and keeping them informed of the beneficial activities of the Punjab Fruit Development Board.

In the third issue of this journal there are four interesting articles in English, namely, "Is there real danger of over-production of fruit in Punjab", "Some salient points about nitrogen carrying fertilizers", "Physiology and nutrition of pruning", and "Tomato juice—its preparation and preservation" and the notable items in the Urdu section are "Propagation of stone fruits", "Manuring of oranges", "List of fruit commission agents of U. P." and "Seasonal hints".

The annual subscription is low, being Rs. two only; it can be had from the Secretary, Punjab Provincial Co-operative Fruit Development Board, Lyallpur.

(J. S. P.)

Crop & Trade Reports.

Paddy—1937-38—First Forecast Report. The average of the areas under paddy in the Madras Presidency during the five years ending 1935-36 has represented 15.3 per cent. of the total area under paddy in India.

The area sown with paddy up to the 25th September 1937 is estimated at 5,893,000 acres. When compared with the area of 6,010,000 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals a decrease of 1.9 per cent.

The estimated area is the same as last year in Coimbatore and Tinnevely; it exceeds the corresponding area of last year in West Godavari, Kistna, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Nellore, South Arcot, Salem, Tanjore, Ramnad and the Nilgiris. The decrease in area in other districts is generally attributed to insufficiency of rains and of water supply in tanks.

The first crop of paddy is being harvested in parts of Tanjore and on the West Coast. The yield is expected to be about normal. The condition of the standing crop is generally fair.

The wholesale price of paddy, second sort, per imperial maund of 82½ lb. as reported from important markets on 4th October 1937 was Rs. 2-12-0 in Chittoor, Rs. 2-10-0 in Vellore, Madura and Tinnevely, Rs. 2-9-0 in Virudhunagar, Rs. 2-7-0 in Masulipatam and Trichinopoly, Rs. 2-6-0 in Vizianagaram, Ellore, Bezwada and Guntur, Rs. 2-5-0 in Cocanada and Rajahmundry, Rs. 1-15-0 in Negapatam and ranged from Rs. 2-2-0 to Rs. 2-4-0 in the other markets. When compared with the prices published in the last report, i. e., those which prevailed on 8th February 1937, the prices reveal a rise of 30 per cent. in Trichinopoly, 29 per cent. in Negapatam, 25 per cent. in Kumbakonam, 23 per cent. in Cocanada, 20 per cent. in Madura and Tinnevely, 17 per cent. in Mangalore, 16 per cent. in Rajahmundry and Cuddalore, 15 per cent. in Ellore and Masulipatam, 12 per cent. in Bezwada and 9 per cent. in Guntur.

Sugarcane—1937—Second Report. The average of the areas under sugarcane in the Madras Presidency during the five years ending 1935-36 has represented 3·4 per cent. of the total area under sugarcane in India.

The area planted with sugarcane up to the 25th September 1937 is estimated at 90,780 acres. When compared with the area of 109,690 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals a decrease of 17·2 per cent.

The decrease in area is general except in Vizagapatam, Ramnad, Tinnevely and South Kanara. The estimated area is the same as last year in Tinnevely; it exceeds the corresponding area of last year by 11·5 per cent. in Vizagapatam and by 3·8 per cent. in South Kanara. The decrease in area elsewhere is generally attributed to the low price of jaggery which prevailed at the time of planting of cane.

The condition of the crop is generally satisfactory except in Chittoor and North Arcot where the crop has been affected by drought to some extent. If a normal season is experienced during the rest of the growing period, the yield is estimated at 259,120 tons of jaggery as against 308,820 tons for the corresponding period of last year.

The wholesale price of jaggery per imperial maund of 82½ lb. as reported from important markets on the 4th October 1937 was Rs. 5-8-0 in Adoni, Rs. 4-12-0 in Mangalore, Rs. 4-11-0 in Trichinopoly, Rs. 4-10-0 in Erode, Rs. 4-2-0 in Salem and Coimbatore, Rs. 3-15-0 in Rajahmundry and Cuddalore, Rs. 3-5-0 in Cocanada and Vellore, Rs. 3-10-0 in Chittoor, Rs. 2-14-0 in Vizagapatam, Rs. 2-12-0 in Vizianagaram, Rs. 2-7-0 in Bellary. When compared with the prices published in the last report, i. e., those which prevailed on 6th September 1937, the prices reveal a rise of 14 per cent. in Trichinopoly, 9 per cent. in Vizagapatam, 3 per cent. in Rajahmundry and 2 per cent. in Cuddalore and a fall of 5 per cent. in Cocanada, the prices remaining stationary in the other centres.

Groundnut—1937—Third forecast report. The average of the areas under groundnut in the Madras Presidency during the five years ending 1935-36 has represented 47·7 per cent. of the total area under groundnut in India.

The area sown with groundnut up to the 25th September 1937 is estimated at 3,656,400 acres. When compared with the area of 2,853,100 acres estimated for the corresponding period of the previous year, it reveals an increase of 28·2 per cent.

The estimated area is the same as last year in Nellore, and falls short of the corresponding area of last year only in Trichinopoly. The increase in area which is noticeable elsewhere is attributed to the incentive of favourable prices at the time of sowing.

The summer crop throughout has been harvested. The yields were generally normal. The yield of the early crop in Salem and Coimbatore is reported to be generally normal.

The condition of the main crop is reported to be below normal outside Kistna, Guntur, Salem, Trichinopoly, the South and Malabar due mainly to drought. In parts of South Arcot, the crop has also been affected by an attack of hairy caterpillar.

The wholesale price of groundnut (shelled) per imperial maund of 82½ lb. as reported from important markets on 4th October 1937 was Rs. 5-8-0 in Cuddalore, Rs. 5-5-0 in Vizagapatam, Rs. 5-4-0 in Vizianagaram, Rs. 4-10-0 in Erode, Rs. 4-8-0 in Cuddapah, Rs. 4-6-0 in Nandyal, Rs. 4-3-0 in Bellary and Vellore, and Rs. 4-0-0 in Adoni. When compared with the prices published in the last report, i. e., those which prevailed on 2nd August 1937, these prices reveal a fall of 18 per cent. in Vellore, 17 per cent. in Adoni, 13 per cent. in Vizagapatam, 12 per cent. in Bellary, 11 per cent. in Vizianagaram, 10 per cent. in Erode, 9 per cent. in Cuddapah, and 8 per cent. in Cuddalore.

Gingelly—1937-38—Second Report.

The average of the areas under gingelly in the Madras Presidency during the five years ending 1935-36 has represented 15.2 per cent. of the total area under gingelly in India.

The area sown with gingelly up to the 25th September 1937 is estimated at 468,000 acres. When compared with the area of 437,200 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals an increase of 7 per cent.

The estimated area is the same as last year in Malabar; it exceeds the corresponding area of last year in Vizagapatam, Nellore, the Central districts (Trichinopoly excepted), the South (Tinnevely excepted) and South Kanara and falls short of it elsewhere. The variations are marked in West Godavari (-17,000 acres), North Arcot (+14,000 acres), Salem (+26,500 acres) and Coimbatore (+27,500 acres).

The early crop of gingelly has been harvested in parts. The yield was generally normal except in Vizagapatam. The condition of the standing crop is fairly satisfactory except in Bellary, Anantapur, Cuddapah, South Arcot, Chittoor, North Arcot and Madura where it has been affected by drought to some extent. The crop has also been affected by an attack of hairy caterpillar in South Arcot and by insect pests and fungus diseases in Madura.

The wholesale price of Gingelly per imperial maund of 82½ lb. as reported from important markets on 4th October 1937 was Rs. 6-15-0 in Trichinopoly, Rs. 6-8-0 in Cocanada, Rs. 6-7-0 in Ellore and Cuddalore, Rs. 6-6-0 in Tinnevely, Rs. 6-3-0 in Tuticorin, Rs. 5-14-0 in Rajahmundry, Rs. 5-12-0 in Salem, Rs. 5-10-0 in Vizianagaram and Rs. 5-7-0 in Vizagapatam. When compared with the prices published in the last report, i. e. those which prevailed on 9th August 1937, these prices reveal a rise of eleven per cent. in Trichinopoly, eight per cent. in Cocanada, four per cent. in Vizagapatam, two per cent. in Tinnevely and a fall of four per cent. in Cuddalore and one per cent. in Vizianagaram, the prices remaining stationary in the other centres.

Ginger—1937—First Forecast Report. The area under ginger up to the 25th August 1937 in the Malabar district, is estimated at 11,000 acres as against 10,000 acres for the corresponding period of the previous year. The condition of the crop is satisfactory.

Pepper—1937—First Report. The area under pepper up to 25th August 1937 in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara is estimated at 104,150 acres (95,500 acres in Malabar and 8,650 acres in South Kanara) as against 102,600 acres (94,000 acres in Malabar and 8,600 acres in South Kanara) estimated for the corresponding period of last year. The condition of the crop is satisfactory in South Kanara. In Malabar, early rains brought about flushing before the normal season and subsequent rains having caused a second flushing, a yield below the normal is expected.

The wholesale price of pepper per imperial maund of 82½ lb. as reported from important markets on 6th September 1937 was Rs. 13-5-0 in Calicut, Rs. 13-11-0 in Tellicherry and Rs. 13-12-0 in Mangalore. When compared with the prices in the beginning of January 1937, these prices show a fall of about 20 per cent. in Calicut, of about 22 per cent. in Tellicherry and of about 24 per cent. in Mangalore.

Cotton—1937-38—Second Report. The average of the areas under cotton in the Madras Presidency during the five years ending 1935-36 has represented 9.5 per cent. of the total area under cotton in India.

The area under cotton up to the 25th September 1937 is estimated at 656,700 acres. When compared with the area of 756,700 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals a decrease of 13.2 per cent. The decrease in area is marked in Kurnool and Bellary where the area fell from 392,000 acres to 295,000 acres, i.e. by 24.7 per cent. owing mainly to want of timely and sufficient rains.

The area in the central districts and the south relates partly to the last year's crop and partly to the current year's sowings which have commenced in parts.

The condition of the standing crop is generally satisfactory, except in Bellary where the early cotton crop suffered from drought and from an attack by the red hairy caterpillar.

The wholesale price of cotton lint per imperial maund of 82½ lb. as reported from important markets on 4th October 1937 was about Rs. 18-15-0 for Cocanadas, Rs. 18-11-0 for white Northernns, Rs. 18-8-0 for red Northernns, Rs. 16-12-0 for Westerns (*mungari* crop), Rs. 18-14-0 for Westerns (*Jawari* crop), Rs. 25-4-0 for Cambodia, Rs. 26-15-0 for Coimbatore-Karunganni, Rs. 21-8-0 for Tinnevely-Karunganni, Rs. 19-7-0 for Tinnevellies and Rs. 21-8-0 for *Nadam* cotton. When compared with the prices published in the last report, i.e. those which prevailed on 6th September 1937, the prices reveal a fall of six per cent. in the case of Westerns (*mungari* crop) and Tinnevellies, five per cent. in the case of Westerns (*Jawari* crop), four per cent. in the case of Cambodia, Tinnevely-Karunganni and *Nadam* and two per cent. in the case of Coimbatore-Karunganni, the price of Cocanadas remaining stationary. (*Director of Industries, Madras*).

Cotton Raw, in the Madras Presidency. The receipts of loose cotton at presses and spinning mills in the Madras Presidency from 1st February 1937 to 15th October 1937 amounted to 475,668 bales of 409 lb. lint as against an estimate of 533,100 bales of the total crop of 1936-37. The receipts in the corresponding period of the previous year were 558,873 bales. 365,588 bales mainly of pressed cotton were received at spinning mills and 197,791 bales were exported by sea while 93,814 bales were imported by sea mainly from Karachi and Bombay. (*Director of Agriculture, Madras*).

College News and Notes.

H. E. the Governor's visit. His Excellency the Governor of Madras and Lady Erskine accompanied by their personal staff arrived at the Agricultural College Estate on the 10th afternoon. His Excellency and party stayed on the College premises throughout their stay of four days at Coimbatore. The Principal's bungalow which was suitably furnished for the purpose was placed at the disposal of H. E. and party by Mr. Broadfoot, Principal of the College. H. E. had a crowded programme in Coimbatore, and wherever he went he was accorded a very warm reception. On the 10th evening, H. E. visited the Government of