

## Correspondence.

To The Editor, Madras Agricultural Journal.

Sir,

Mr. S. Gopalakrishnan of Theyagarayanagar in an article about Bee Keeping in the "Gardener," published by Pestonjee P. Pocha and Sons, Volume No. 1st and 3rd, page 33 states about the birth of a queen that when a queen is needed a worker egg or larvae not more than three days old is transferred to an acron shaped cell, specially built for rearing of queen and the chosen larvae is given special feeding with a rich food usually termed "Royal Jelly."

It is an accepted fact that the reigning queen lays an egg in each queen cell specially constructed when a new queen is to be produced, by many authors including Mr. S. Ramachandran of the Department of Agriculture.

Can any one throw light whether the assumption of S. Gopalakrishnan is also correct in the light of his experiences, since it is commonly recognised that laying of eggs by the queen in queen cells for future production of queens is a common occurrence.

4th August 1937.

K. M. V.

### Reply.

Sir,

The statement made by Mr. Gopalakrishnan in his article on 'Beekeeping' under the heading "The Birth of a New Queen" cannot be accepted as a general rule. The transferring of the eggs or grubs happens only in exceptional cases, where the colony has lost its reigning queen all on a sudden. Under such circumstances, the workers construct queen cells generally round a fertilised egg or a newly hatched grub in the centre of the brood comb itself and rear a queen there. Occasionally, queen cells are also constructed along the lower border of the brood comb and in such cases the transferring of the egg or the grub becomes an obvious necessity.

The general rule is that a queen is reared only from a fertilised egg laid in the queen cell by the reigning queen. Mr. Gopalakrishnan should have stated this first and then made the other statement, if necessary.

Coimbatore, }  
17--8--1937. }

(Sd.) M. C. Cherian,

Government Entomologist.

## Crop & Trade Reports.

**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 20th August 1937 amounted to 407,215 bales of 400 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 468,295 bales. 289,072 bales mainly of pressed cotton were received at spinning mills and 178,022 bales were exported by sea while 7989) bales were imported by sea mainly from Karachi and Bombay.

(Director of Agriculture).

**1937-38--First forecast 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 July 1937 is estimated at 227,000 acres. When compared with the area of 286,300 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals a decrease of 20·7 per cent.

*Central Districts and South—Mainly Cambodia tract.* The area in the Central districts and the South represents generally the last year's crop left on the ground for second pickings before the plants are removed in September in compliance with the provisions of the Pest Act. The area in these districts fell from 161,200 acres to 161,000 acres. The yield is expected to be generally fair.

*Northerns and Westerns tract.* The area under Northerns and Westerns fell from 103,000 acres to 46,600 acres, i. e., by 54·8 per cent. owing mainly to the want of timely and sufficient rains.

*Cocanadas tract.* The area under Cocanadas cotton fell from 15,100 acres to 13,200 acres, i. e., by 12·6 per cent. The decrease in Guntur alone is estimated at 1,000 acres and this is largely due to an increase in the cultivation of groundnut in preference to cotton.

The wholesale price of cotton lint per imperial maund of 82½ lbs. as reported from important markets on 2nd August 1937 was about Rs. 20—9—0 for Cocanadas, Rs. 21—6—0 for red Northerns, Rs. 19—0—0 for white Northerns, Rs. 18—12—0 for westerns (mungari crop), Rs. 21—7—0 for westerns (Jawari crop), Rs. 27—5—0 for Cambodia, Rs. 27—8—0 for Coimbatore Karunganni, Rs. 21—11—0 for Tinnevellies and Rs. 22—5—0 for Nadam cotton.—(*Director of Industries*).

**Sugarcane—1937—38—First 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 under sugarcane up to the 25th July 1937 is estimated at 61,620 acres. When compared with the area of 96,950 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals a decrease of 17·5 per cent. The decrease in area is general except in Anantapur, Malabar and South Kanara. The area is estimated to be the same as in the previous year in Anantapur and to have increased slightly in Malabar and 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.

The wholesale price of jaggery per imperial maund or 82½ lb. as reported from important markets on 2nd August 1937 was Rs. 5—8—0 in Adoni, Rs. 4—12—0 in Mangalore, Rs. 4—11—0 in Erode, Rs. 4—6—0 in Trichinopoly, Rs. 4—2—0 in Salem and Coimbatore, Rs. 3—12—0 in Cuddalore, Rs. 3—10—0 in Rajahmundry, Rs. 3—5—0 in Vellore, Rs. 2—15—0 in Cocanada, Rs. 2—12—0 in Vizianagaram, Rs. 2—7—0 in Bellary and Rs. 2—6—0 in Vizagapatam. As compared with the prices reported in the corresponding forecast of last year, these prices reveal a fall of 41 per cent in Bellary, 25 per cent in Vizagapatam and Cocanada, 16 per cent in Rajahmundry and Adoni and 9 per cent in Vellore and a rise of 49 per cent in Trichinopoly, 16 per cent in Salem and 7 per cent in Mangalore, the price remaining stationary in Coimbatore.—(*Director of Industries*).

**Groundnut—1937—Second Report.** *Summer Crop—Area and Yield.* The area under the summer or irrigated crop of groundnut in parts of the Madras Presidency during the five months January to May 1937 is estimated at 67,800 acres. When compared with the area of 61,300 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals an increase of 10·6 per cent. The crop has been harvested in most places. The yield is expected to be normal in all districts



except in Cuddapah and Trichinopoly where it is expected to be below normal on account of insect attack in the former district and to insufficient water supply in the latter. The total yield is estimated at 60,100 tons of unshelled nuts as against 54,900 tons estimated for the corresponding period of last year.

**Early Crop—Area and Yield.** The area under the early crop of groundnut (mostly unirrigated) up to 25th July 1937 in the districts of Salem and Coimbatore is estimated at 181,000 acres. When compared with the area of 128,000 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals an increase of about 41·4 per cent. The condition of the crop is satisfactory. The total yield is estimated at 90,500 tons of unshelled nuts as against 64,000 tons estimated for the corresponding period of last year.

The wholesale price of groundnut shelled per imperial maund of 82½ lbs. as reported from important markets on 2nd August 1937 was Rs. 6—2—0 in Vizagapatam, Rs. 6 in Cuddalore, Rs. 5—14—0 in Vizianagaram, Rs. 5—13—0 in Guntur, Rs. 5—2—0 in Vellore and Erode, Rs. 4—15—0 in Cuddapah, Rs. 4—13—0 in Adoni and Rs. 4—12—0 in Bellary. As compared with the prices prevailing towards the close of June 1937 published in the last report, these prices reveal a fall of 6 per cent. in Cuddapah, 5 per cent. in Cuddalore, 3 per cent. in Bellary, 2 per cent. in Vizianagaram and Vellore and 1 per cent. in Adoni and a rise of 2 per cent. in Vizagapatam, the prices remaining stationary in Guntur and Erode.—(*Director of Industries*).

**Gingelly—1937-38—First 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.

**Area.** The area under gingelly up to 25th July 1937 is estimated at 356,800 acres. When compared with the area of 344,700 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals an increase of 3·5 per cent. There has been a large increase in area in the central districts and Madura which has been partly counterbalanced by a large decrease in area in the Circars, the Deccan and the districts of Chingleput and South Arcot.

**Yield.** The yield is expected to be below normal in Vizagapatam, Kistna, Nellore, South Arcot, Trichinopoly and Madura and normal in the other districts.

The wholesale price of gingelly per imperial maund of 82½ lbs. as reported from important markets on 9th August 1937 was Rs. 6—11—0 in Cuddalore, Rs. 6—7—0 in Ellore, Rs. 6—4—0 in Trichinopoly and Tinnevely, Rs. 6—3—0 in Tuticorin, Rs. 6—0—0 in Cocanada, Rs. 5—14—0 in Rajahmundry, Rs. 5—12—0 in Salem, Rs. 5—11—0 in Vizianagaram and Rs. 5—4—0 in Vizagapatam.—(*Director of Industries*).

## THE MADRAS AGRICULTURAL STUDENTS' UNION

The annual general body meeting of the Union was held on Sunday the 25th July 1937 with Mr. R. C. Broadfoot, Principal and President of the Union in the chair. The minutes of the previous general body meeting, the annual report for the year 1936-1937 and the auditors' report were read and adopted. The budget estimates for the year 1937-38 were discussed and passed.

The following resolutions proposed by Mr. K. Unnikrishna Menon were passed:—

In view of the agricultural graduate being intimate with the actual life of the villager, the Madras Agricultural Students' Union recommends to Government that a proportion of the officers of the Revenue, Co-operative, Labour and Education Departments and Panchayat officers be recruited from among the Agricultural graduates.



As ruralisation of the system of education is an important means of reducing unemployment among the educated classes the attention of the Government be drawn to the desirability of expediting the provision of facilities for the starting of agriculture as an optional or vocational subject in such areas as offer facilities for such provision.

The question of assignment of lands to agricultural graduates and starting of colonies of unemployed graduates was next discussed and the following resolution was passed :—

The Madras Agricultural Students' Union recommends to Government that a special committee including representatives of the Madras Agricultural Students' Union be constituted to go into the question of colonisation of lands by agricultural graduates.

The following office bearers for the year 1937-1938, were elected :—

**Council.** *Moffusil Vice Presidents* : Mr. K. Unnikrishna Menon, Rao Bahadur G. Jogiraju Garu and Mr. V. T. Subbiah Mudaliar—*Moffusil Members* : Messrs K. Gopalakrishna Raju, A. Chinnathambi Pillai, K. T. Bhandari and A. Chidambaram Pillai and *Resident members* : Rao Bahadur S. Sundararama Ayyar, avl.; Rao Sahib T. V. Rajagopalacharyar avl.; Rao Sahib V. Muthuswami Ayyar avl. and Mr. K. V. Srinivasan (Student).

**Managing committee.** *Vice President* : Mr. V. Ramanatha Ayyar—*Editor* : Mr. M. U. Vellodi—*Secretary* : Mr. M. A. Sankara Ayyar—*Manager* : Mr. P. A. Venkateswara Ayyar—*Treasurer* : Mr. T. S. Lakshmanan—and *Members* : Messrs. C. S. Krishnaswami, C. Jaganatha Rao, C. Rajasekhara Mudaliar and S. K. Jogi (Student),

**Editorial Board.** Editor, Secretary, Manager, Dr J. S. Patel and Messrs M. C. Cherian, K. M. Thomas and R. Viswanathan (Student)—

## **Report of the Managing Committee for the year 1936-37.**

(Presented to the General Body.)

The Managing Committee beg to present the following report of the activities of the Union for the year 1936-37.

**Membership.** The strength of the Union as it stood on 31st May 1937 was 450, including 97 student members. It is noted with regret that nearly two-fifths of the members of the Department are still not members of the Union. We appeal to all of them to join the Union and add to our strength. At the last General Body Meeting the Managing Committee was empowered to extend to such unemployed old boys of the College as require it, the concession rate of subscription applicable to students under the rules. This concession was availed off by eleven old boys.

**The Managing Committee.** Consequent on his transfer to Adoni, Mr. S. M. Kalyanarama Ayyar resigned his secretaryship in May 1937, and the Managing Committee elected Mr. M. A. Sankara Ayyar as Secretary in his place. Mr. T. S. Lakshmanan was elected as Treasurer and Mr. K. Ramaswami as a member of the Managing Committee. The Committee places on record its appreciation of the wholehearted services rendered by Mr. Kalyanaraman during the time he was Secretary.

**Committee Meetings.** There were 9 meetings of the Managing Committee during the year.

**Journal.** The Journal maintained the high standard associated with it. It continued to be printed at The Scholar Press, Palghat. We have great pleasure in recording our grateful thanks to The Editor and the members of the editorial board for the efficient conduct of the Journal. We have also to record our



appreciation of the promptness and regularity of the printers, The Scholar Press, Palghat.

During the year under review one of the members of the editorial board, Mr. K. Ramiah, left us to take up the appointment of Geneticist at Indore. He is one of the oldest members and an enthusiastic worker in the cause of the Union. We wish him all success in his new sphere of activities.

**Subscribers.** The number of subscribers (non-members) to the Journal during the year was 200. 25 Journals, Indian and foreign, were on the exchange list. We take this opportunity to appeal to all the members of the Union to actively and materially help the Union by enlisting more subscribers.

**Grant of land and money to Agricultural Graduates.** At the last General Body Meeting held on the 1st of August 1936, the following resolution was passed: "That this General Body Meeting requests the Director of Agriculture to move government about making statutory provision for the free grant of lands, wherever available and the necessary funds, to agricultural graduates, and that a Committee consisting of M. R. Ry. Rao Sahib V. Muthuswami Ayyar Avl., M. R. Ry. Rao Sahib T. V. Rajagopalachariar Avl., Messrs. G. Jogi Raju, K. Krishnamurthi Rao, G. Mahadevan and the Vice President and Secretary of the Union be formed to prepare an elaborate note as to how the objects could be achieved, for forwarding it with the resolutions to the Government."

The resident members of the sub-committee met and elected M. R. Ry. Rao Sahib Muthuswami Ayyar Avl. as the Convenor of the Committee. Materials for the note are being collected. The task is not an easy one, as a sound case with facts and figures has to be made out.

**Finance.** The Auditor's Reports and the financial statements are before you. Our finances have shown an improvement over last year inspite of the extra expenditure in connection with the Jubilee celebrations last July and a fairly large amount of arrears in subscription from our members. These dues could not be collected before the end of May owing to changes in the Managing Committee as well as in the permanent establishment. These collections are now in progress.

**Ramasastrulu--Munagala Prize.** The announcement regarding the Ramasastrulu-Munagala Endowment Prize was made in the April and May numbers of the Journal. We are sorry to note that there was no response and the prize has therefore not been awarded this year.

**Establishment.** Till towards the end of 1936 the Union was managing its office work with the help of a permanent and an occasional part-time clerk and a peon. A whole time clerk and a boy have now been appointed, thus securing economy and efficiency.

**Acknowledgements.** We take this opportunity to record our heart-felt thanks to Messrs. R. W. Littlewood and R. C. Broadfoot who as presidents took a keen interest in the affairs of the Union and rendered valuable help, especially in connection with the College Day celebrations. The Union owes a deep debt of gratitude to M. R. Ry. Rao Bahadur D. Ananda Rao Garu for his abiding interest in the activities of the Union. He has been intimately connected with it in the past as Vice-President and President. We learn with regret that he is shortly to retire from active service and we hope that we shall continue to have his help and guidance. We wish him a long, happy and prosperous life. We shall be failing in our duty if we do not record our grateful thanks to the members and convenors of the various committees who whole-heartedly helped us in celebrating the Jubilee last year, especially to Mr. & Mrs. Cherian who organised the tea to the visitors and to Mr. H. Shiva Rau who conducted the sports. Our thanks are also due to Mr. Davis, Principal of the Forest College for loaning to us furniture and tents.



## College Day Sports.

The athletic sports in connection with the 26th College Day were held under the auspices of the Madras Agricultural Students' Union on Saturday the 24th July 1937. The College maidan was decked as usual with flags, streamers and buntings. The weather was very favourable till the day previous to the sports but the morning dawned with a clouded sky, and there was slight precipitation too; but fortunately the rain ceased after wetting the ground and imparting to it just that softness which competitors greatly like.

The sports commenced punctually at 3 p. m. and all the items on the programme were completed by 6-10 p. m. There was as usual the keenest competition for ranks and three new records were created, two by Mukundan, in Long Jump and Javelin throw and one by Monappa Hegde in Cricket ball throw.

Mukundan, by scoring 63 points, was again the champion for the third time in succession. This is the first time in the annals of the College Day sports that a student performs such a feat.

After the events were over Mr. R. C. Broadfoot, Principal and President of the Union, gave a short review of the sports, and requested Mrs. A. C. Woodhouse to distribute the awards. Mr. H. Shiva Rao, the President of the sports committee, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Woodhouse for so graciously accepting our invitation to give away the prizes.

As usual the Union was at home to the ladies and gentlemen who responded to our invitation to witness the sports. Our thanks are due to Mrs. K. M. Thomas for her help in arranging for the 'at home.'

The Union takes this opportunity to record their sincere thanks to Mr. H. Shiva Rao and the other members of the sports committee and all those who gave of their best to make this function a success.

### List of Prize Winners.

- Cross Country Race** (The Norris Cup). 1. T. M. Marthapa Kini. 2. M. Zainulabedeem. 3. T. V. Sailavasadasu.
- Hundred Yards Dash** (The Saidapet Old Boys' Cup). 1. M. Mukundan. 2. S. V. Joseph Doss. 3. K. M. Aiyappa.
- Long Jump**. 1. M. Mukundan. 2. M. Ramiah. 3. K. M. Aiyappa.
- Shot Put**. 1. M. Mukundan. 2. P. K. S. Mani. 3. Mohan Punja.
- High Jump** (Rao Bahudur C. Tadulingam Cup). 1. M. Mukundan. 2. P. K. S. Mani. 3. M. Ramiah.
- Quarter Mile Race** (The Prince of Wales Cup). 1. T. M. Kini. 2. M. Mukundan. 3. N. J. Sreshta.
- Cricket Ball Throw**. 1. Monappa Hegde. 2. M. Mukundan. 3. K. Santhanam.
- Half Mile Race**. 1. T. M. Kini. 2. Zainulabedeem. 3. N. V. Srinivasan.
- Javelin Throw**. 1. M. Mukundan. 2. K. Santhanam. 3. P. K. S. Mani.
- Half Mile Race** (Invitation). 1. P. Nagaswami (Central Recruits School). 2. Dominic (Government College High School).
- 120 Yds. Hurdles** (The Rao Bahudur Ramaswami Sivan Cup). 1. T. M. Kini. 2. M. Ramaiah. 3. M. Mukundan.
- Old Boys' Race** (100 Yds. Handicap). 1. A. M. Kulandai. 2. S. Varadarajan.
- 1 Mile Race** (The Anstead Cup). 1. T. M. Kini. 2. Zainulabedeem. 3. Sreshta.
- Inter-Tutorial Relay Race** (The Chunampet Shield). Mr. Lakshmipathy's wards,
- Obstacle Race**. 1. P. K. S. Mani. 2. T. P. S. Nainar. 3. P. S. Srinivasan.
- Inter-Tutorial Tug-of-War** (The Ramanad Shield). Dr. J. S. Patel's Wards.
- Pole Vault**. N. V. Srinivasan.
- Championship** (Vengail Krishnan Nayanar's Cup). M. Mukundan.