

the other side were found to make the work of the cattle much lighter than in the country plough where the broad body offers comparatively greater resistance to draught. The demonstration was on the whole a very great success. Demonstrations in pumping and boring were also held by the Agricultural Department. Popular lectures on "Manuring," "Thin-planting of Paddy" and "Hints to Engine and Pump owners" were delivered by the staff of the Agricultural College illustrated by lantern slides.

K. Raghavachari.

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### Extracts.

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*Loss of weight in crop after harvesting*:—Mr. Evans, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Central Provinces, writes— "There is a good deal of loss in weight due to driage in the grains soon after harvest. It is probable that in some cases the very high yields reported from some of the Agricultural Stations do not represent the true marketable weights. When calculating outturn per acre, allowance will have to be made for this. This point is also of interest to the Revenue authorities who conduct crop cutting experiments on which the crop forecasts are made. A series of experiments were started, to have an idea of the amount of loss due to driage in some of the important crops. The results show that the loss in weight, in the case of early light paddies varied from 11 to 13 per cent. in the course of 3 days. In the case of late paddies the loss went down to 9.5% and in very late paddies it was still less, about 6.5%. Thus the loss is greatest in the light rices which are cut and harvested in the cold weather. The practice of harvesting and weighing paddies for the purpose of crop experiment returns in the space of three hours, may easily lead to an error of 10% over the true outturn.

In the case of groundnuts the loss was above 40% in the course of 6 days.

In cholam the loss was 15% in three days, and more than 22% in two months.

The loss in weight in dry weather crops is practically negligible as they are usually cut dead ripe at the beginning of the hot weather. Further experiments are being conducted as it may be possible to arrive at some rough factors which will allow of suitable deductions being made for driage for the different staple crops." (Agricultural Journal of India). K. R.

*Mango Grafting*:—Experts in graft mango cultivation have found out by experience that the qualities of the stock play an important part on the graft, influencing the quality, size, and flavour of the fruit, prolificness or otherwise and the time of flowering. In preparing the stocks, the gardeners are cutting off the tap roots to facilitate potting, thereby forcing the plant to develop more surface roots. This is the chief reason why graft mango gardens have short life of 25 to 30 years in Alamanda and the neighbourhood. To improve the qualities and the longevity of the grafts, experts are now planting seeds of superior varieties by the side of the grafts, while starting fresh gardens. After the plant from the seed makes sufficient growth, the graft is then transferred to it and the original stock without tap roots gradually removed. For grafting, the trees are planted very close, about six feet apart and the branches forced to creep on the ground, so that the stocks for grafting are placed on the ground and formed into small beds by raising small bunds round them, rendering watering easier.

(Monthly Report, Assistant of Agriculture, I. Circle).

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