

To

Manager, Bapatla

D. Tiruvellore

Conservation Asst.  
puram

D. A. O. Guindy

ikakulam

Manager, Sugarcane  
Farm, Nelli-  
m

n Mycology Coim-

st. Mannargudy

To

leave for 35 days  
n 10-2-1953 to  
-1953

leave for 60 days  
n 20-1-1953 to  
-1953.

l leave on average  
or 2 months

rdinary leave for  
month from 21-1-'53  
-2-1953

leave for 75 days  
m 21-1-1953 to  
-1953

leave for 90 days  
n 15-1-1953 to  
-1953

leave for 45 days

leave for one month

d earned leave for  
ys

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## Editorial

### An all-out campaign for increased rice production in the country

It is common knowledge that the average acre yields in India are very far behind those countries in the East, like Japan and China or of the West, like Spain, Italy and United States of America. One of the essential features which differentiates rice growing in this country and that in the others is the period during which the bulk rice crops are grown in several countries. In the Indian Union most of the rice is monsoon crop, when high humidity and comparatively less sun-shine favourable for promoting vegetative vigour at the expense of grain formation are present. In all the other countries which record very high acre yields, rice is an autumn crop. It is grown from May to September when ideal conditions prevail for maximum out-turn. The soil and atmospheric temperature, humidity and sun-shine are optimum. The irrigation is also heavy notwithstanding good uniform rainfall available in those countries. It is no wonder, therefore, that high acre yields of rice result. In Madras where rice is grown as an autumn crop high yields comparable to those in Japan are obtained. This should not, however mean that we in India cannot improve our acre yields. Though not to the same extent as in Japan just now, our rice yields can be quite easily stepped up by pooling all the natural resources of the country and adopting better cultural methods, to enhance the present average by at least another 50 per cent more. By research high yielding strains of rice have been produced. The experiences gained on the optimum use of manures and the adoption of the best cultural practices and other useful information for increasing rice production have not reached all the cultivators in proper perspective due to diverse causes.

If it should be possible to take this knowledge to as many rice cultivators as possible, the total rice production in this country is bound to increase. The Government of India have realised that the above objective can not be achieved unless a campaign on the mass scale is launched to bring home to the cultivator the good points in rice cultivation. They have accordingly inaugurated what is called, "The campaign for the Japanese Method of cultivation" on the 15th March. It is significant that this improved method of rice culture is called the Japanese method of rice culture. The JAPANESE are noted for their tenacity of purpose. Love for work and service for their nation even at personal sacrifice are their motto. Adapting



the conditions to crops and the crops to changing conditions are planned and practised to obtain the best from the available resources. Their soil is made to do its full duty through the available growing season. Emphasising the essential features of the Japanese method or for the matter of that, the improved rice culture which the Campaign is intended to foster amongst the rice cultivators of the Indian Union, it consists essentially in the raising of healthy seedlings with the saving in seed, transplanting seedlings in a regular way to permit of thorough weeding and interculture and practice of a judicious combination of natural manures like compost, green manures etc., and chemical fertilizers, namely ammonium sulphate and super phosphate. The seed used should be sound, for, bad seed or inferior seed is anathema to the Japanese and therefore it cannot produce good progeny and a good stand of crop. The seedling must have a good start in life, so that it can make the best use of the added fertilizers. The transplant crop should have no competitors in weeds infesting the fields and requires adequate doses of plant foods during their growth. All these are properly attended to in the Japanese culture. The notable feature in this method of cultivation is that it involves no complicated processes, no expensive implements and yet increased yields are obtained by the simple use of improved seed, proper planting and judicious use of manures. The Government of India in co-operation with the States have planned a nation wide Campaign through radio, schools, teachers and all other possible media to take this information of good cultivation of rice to as many villages as possible.

It has been found that a judicious use of ammonium sulphate with organic manures is useful for immediately increasing rice yields in many parts of the country. The Government of India have announced a reduction of about Rs. 70/- per ton in the issue price of ammonium sulphate. Arrangements have been made to stock the manure at suitable places for the use of ryots. Adequate quantities of rice seed are also available at suitable centres for the benefit of ryots. It must, however, be noted that the best results are obtained by the use of green manures. *Sesbania speciosa* which withstands drought, flooding and is free from pests and produces a good tonnage of green matter is veritably a marvellous green manure crop which can be planted in the fringes of paddy bunds along with rice and in four and a half months' time, yields 3000 to 4000 lb. green matter to serve as basal dressing for rice manuring. A vigorous campaign is also made by the State Department independently for the extended use of this valuable green manure crop. It is fervently hoped that with the inauguration of this nation-wide campaign for better farming practices in rice culture, the food deficits of the State from rice out-turn will dwindle in the years to come.

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