A352-120-15,000-L

TEXAS AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE OF TEXAS

W. B. BIZZELL, President

BULLETIN NO. 258

DECEMBER, 1919

REPORT OF EXPERIMENTS, SUB-STATION NO. 4, BEAUMONT, TEXAS



B. YOUNGBLOOD, DIRECTOR COLLEGE STATION, BRAZOS COUNTY, TEXAS

STATION STAFF[†]

ADMINISTRATION

B. YOUNGBLOOD, M. S., Director A. B. CONNER, B. S., Vice Director J. M. JONES, A. M., Assistant Director CHAS. A. FELKER, Chief Clerk A. S. WARE, Secretary . Executive Assistant CHARLES SOSOLIK, Technical Assistant

- VETERINARY SCIENCE *M. FRANCIS, D. V. M., Chief H. Schmidt, D. V. S., Veterinarian D. H. BENNETT, V. M. D., Veterinarian CHEMISTRY
 - HEMISTRY G. S. FRAPS, Ph. D., Chief; State Chemist S. E. ASBURY, M. S., Assistant Chemist S. LOMANITZ, B. S., Assistant Chemist F. B. SCHILLING, B. S., Assistant Chemist J. B. SMITH, B. S., Assistant Chemist WALDO WALKER, Assistant Chemist

- HORTICULTURE H. NESS, M. S., Chief W. S. HOTCHKISS, Horticulturist
- ANIMAL INDUSTRY J. M. JONES, A. M., Chief; Sheep and Goat J.
 - M. JONES, A. M., Chief; Sheep and Goat Investigations.
 C. BURNS, B. S., Animal Husbandman in Charge of Beef Cattle Investigations (on leave) J. B. MCNULTY, B. S., Dairyman R. M. SHERWOOD, B. S., Animal Husbandman in Charge of Swine Investigations
 G. R. WARREN, B. S., Assistant Animal Hus-bandman

 - bandman R. G. BRo. bandman G. BREWER, B. S., Assistant Animal Hus-

1. Beeville, Bee County I. E. COWART, M. S., Superintendent No. 1.

- No. 2. Troup, Smith County W. S. HOTCHKISS, Superintendent
- No. 3. Angleton, Brazoria County E. B. REYNOLDS, M. S., Superintendent
- No. 4. Beaumont, Jefferson County A. H. PRINCE, B. S., Superintendent
- No. 5. Temple, Bell County D. T. KILLOUGH, B. S., Superintendent
- No. 6. Denton, Denton County C. H. McDowell, B. S., Superintendent
- No. 7. Spur, Dickens County R. E. DICKSON, B. S., Superintendent

- tAs of December 30, 1919. In cooperation with School of Agriculture, A. & M. College of Texas. In cooperation with the School of Veterinary Medicine, A. & M. College of Texas In cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture.

ENTOMOLOGY

- M. C. TANQUARY, Ph. D., Chief; State Entomologisi
- H. J. REINHARD, B. S., Entomologist . Assistant Entomologist

AGRONOMY

- A. B. CONNER, B. S., Chief A. H. LEIDIGH, B. S., Agronomist E. W. GEYER, B. S., Agronomist H. H. LAUDE, M. S., Agronomist
- PLANT PATHOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY J. J. TAUBENHAUS, Ph. D., Chief
- FEED CONTROL SERVICE F. D. FULLER, M. S., Chief JAMES SULLIVAN, Executive Secretary
- FORESTRY E. O. SIECKE, B. S., Chief; State Forester
- PLANT BREEDING E. P. HUMBERT, Ph. D., Chief
- FARM AND RANCH ECONOMICS H. M. ELIOT, M. S., Chief

SOIL SURVEY **W. T. CARTER, JR., B. S., Chief T. M. BUSHNELL, B. S., Soil Surveyor W. B. FRANCIS, B. S., Soil Surveyor , Soil Surveyor

SUBSTATIONS

- No. 8. Lubbock, Lubbock County R. E. KARPER, B. S., Superintendent D. L. JONES, Scientific Assistant
- No. 9. Pecos, Reeves County J. W. JACKSON B. S., Superintendent

No. 10. (Feeding and Breeding Substation) College Station, Brazos County Superintendent E. CAMERON, Scientific Assistant

No. 11. Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches County G. T. McNess, Superintendent

- No. 14. Sonora, Sutton-Edwards Countier E. M. PETERS, B. S., Superintendent
- **No. 12. Chillicothe, Hardeman County A. B. CRON, B. S., Superintendent V. E. HAFNER, B. S., Scientific Assistant

CONTENTS.

Nature of Work	5
Publications	5
The Weather	5
Rice Experiments:	
Fertilizer	8
Depth of Plowing	9
Time of Plowing	10 10
Seedbed Preparation	10
Date of Seeding	11
Drilling vs. Mudding	11
Eradication of Weeds	11
Variety	11
Corn Experiments:	1 A
Fertilizer	13
Variety	13
Cotton Experiments:	
Fertilizer	14
Variety	14
Sudan Experiments:	
Fertilizer	15
Rate of Seeding	16
Ratio of Green to Cured Weight	.16
Japanese Sugar Cane Experiments:	
In Rotation with Rice	16
In Rotation with Highland Crops	17
Fall Planting	18
Rate of Seeding	18
Grain Sorghum Seed Production.	18
Miscellaneous Notes	19
Summary	20

[Blank Page in Original Bulletin]

BULLETIN NO. 258.

DECEMBER, 1919.

REPORT OF EXPERIMENTS, SUBSTATION NO. 4. BEAUMONT, TEXAS.

BY

H. H. LAUDE.

Substation No. 4, located six miles west of Beaumont, in one of the largest rice-growing sections in Texas, is one of the outdoor laboratories of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, and is used primarily for the study of problems confronting the rice farmers. The chief subjects of investigation are the selection of varieties, the value of fertilizers, control of weeds, crops suitable for rotation with rice, and methods of preparing the land and of planting the rice crop. The land lies comparatively level and the soil type is heavy clay. The results of investigations are applicable in general to farms in the rice belt of Texas.

A former report* of this substation gives the data regarding its establishment, operation, and results to 1914, inclusive. This publi-cation covers the period from 1915 to 1918, inclusive, though earlier results are included in some cases to secure averages for a longer period and thus give more reliable information.

Results of experiments conducted on this substation have been reported in the following-named publications:

Japanese Sugar Cane as a Forage Crop, Bulletin No. 195. Progress Report, Substation No. 4, Beaumont, Texas, Bulletin No. 200.

Spacing of Rows in Corn and Its Effect Upon Grain Yield, Bulletin No. 230.

Control of Weeds in Rice Fields, Bulletin No. 239.

THE WEATHER.

The period from 1915 to 1918 inclusive, embraced one abnormally dry year, 1917, and no exceptionally wet years though certain short periods of heavy rainfall are recorded, particularly in the fall of 1918, when much damage was done to crops, limiting the amount of experiment data secured for that year.

The storm in August, 1915, damaged crops severely and made it impossible to secure comparative yields in some of the tests on the substation.

A summary of the climatic conditions for the years 1915 to 1918 inclusive, is given in the following tables:

*Bulletin No. 200, Progress Report, 1909-1914, Substation No. 4, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Beaumont, Texas. H. H. Laude.

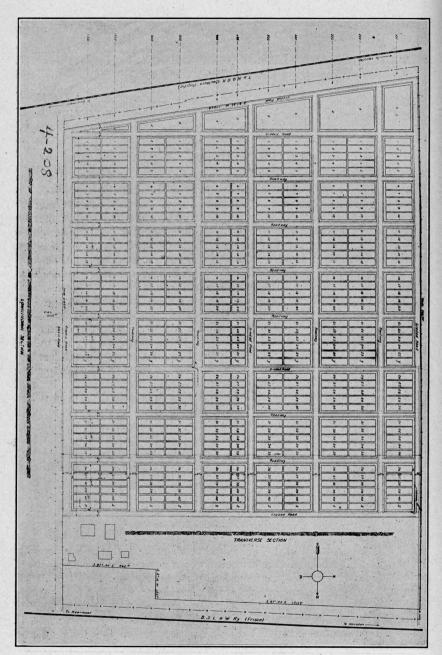


Fig. 1.-Plat map of Substation No. 4.

The small blocks are 33 feet wide and 132 feet long, comprising one-tenth acre.

TEXAS AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION.

REPORT OF EXPERIMENTS, SUBSTATION No. 4.

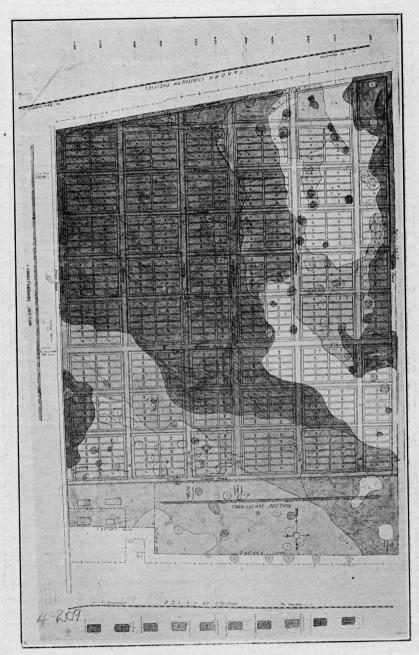


Fig. 2.—Soil map of Substation No. 4. The darker areas represent the heavier types of soil.

Year.	Temp Dai	erature A ly Degree	verage . s F.	Humid- ity	Wind	Evapor-	Precipi-
	Max.	Min.	Mean	Mean, Mile per cent	Miles	ation, Inches	tation, Inches
1915 1916 1917 1917 1918	74 79 77 78	56 57 55 57	65 68 66 68	 77 79	58511 46501 46636 40096		50.04 52.89 24.14 48.64
Mean Long term means No. years in long term	77	56 		78	47936	49.05	43.92 47.69 26

Table 1.-Summary of meteorological data 1915 to 1918.

Table 2.-Dates of last and first killing frosts and length of growing season.

Year	Date Last Killing Frost in Spring	Date First Killing Frost in Fall	Length of Growing Season, Days
1915 1916 1917 1917 1918	April 3 February 15 March 5 February 5	November 16 November 14 October 29 December 3	227 273 238 301
Average	March 1	November 15	259

COTTONSEED MEAL PRODUCED THE MOST RICE, BUT A COMBINATION OF AMMONIUM SULPHATE AND ACID PHOSPHATE MADE THE LARGEST PROFIT.

Four years' results of the application of fertilizers to rice are available. In the following table are given the kinds and amounts of fertilizers used in each case and the average yields of rough rice for the different treatments:

Table 3.-Fertilizers for rice, arranged in order of their effect on yield, 1915 to 1918, inclusive.

Fertilizer Applied		Yield Pounds to the Acre, Average of
Kind	Pounds to the Acre	Four Years
Cottonseed Meal	300	2048
Ammonium Sulphate Acid Phosphate	50 75	2018
Ammonium Sulphate	100	2017
Ammonium Sulphate Acid Phosphate	200 300	2007
Ammonium Sulphate Acid Phosphate	100 150	1994
Acid Phosphate	150	1927
Cottonseed Meal Acid Phosphate	300 150	1873
Acid Phosphate Manure	150 12000	1758
Manure	12000	1625
Check—no fertilizer		1526

The composition of the different fertilizers used in these experiments was:

Cottonseed meal, 43 per cent. protein, approximately 7 per cent. nitrogen.

Ammonium sulphate, 20.5 per cent. nitrogen.

Acid phosphate, 16 per cent.

Manure, from barnyard.

The applications of different fertilizers have produced average increases in yield from 99 pounds to the acre in case of manure, to 552 pounds to the acre in the case of cottonseed meal. Applications of ammonium sulphate or of a fertilizer in which ammonium sulphate was included have produced increases in yield of 468 to 492 pounds to the acre. The results show that the individual fertilizers rank in the following order, regarding effect on yield: (1) cottonseed meal, (2) ammonium sulphate, (3) acid phosphate, (4) manure.

The experiments conducted have shown that the value of a fertilizer for rice is influenced materially by the presence of weeds including grasses. In order to have the entire benefit of the fertilizer devoted to the production of rice it is necessary that the field be free of weeds. In case weeds are very abundant the application of fertilizers may even reduce the yield of rice. The low rank which manure has among the fertilizers has apparently been due to the introduction of weed seeds and thus the rapid increase of weeds on the land. The rate of increase of weeds is affected not only by the kind of fertilizer but also by the amount of fertilizer applied, the heavier applications causing more rapid increase.

In order to make the use of fertilizers for rice most profitable it is necessary to adopt some method of controlling the weeds. The method for doing this, explained in Bulletin No. 239, "Control of Weeds in Rice Fields," has given excellent results.

The rice on the fertilized plats showed a greater tendency to lodge than it did on the unfertilized plats. In a few cases, particularly with the heavier applications of fertilizers, enough lodging resulted to interfere with harvesting. In one instance lodging occurred early enough to apparently reduce the yield.

The basis for selecting the best fertilizer is not solely the increased yield due to its application, but the increased yield in relation to the increased cost per acre. When the approximate costs to the acre of the different fertilizers used in this test are examined it is apparent that ammonium sulphate ranks first in profitableness, acid phosphate probably outranks cottonseed meal, and manure is the last in the list. A light application of ammonium sulphate and acid phosphate combined has given as good results as a medium amount of ammonium sulphate alone and is somewhat cheaper.

IT PAID TO PLOW DEEP FOR RICE.

The depth to which land is plowed for rice has had a decided influence on the yield, the latter increasing with deeper plowing. Table 4 gives the average data for three years when the land was plowed in the fall or winter preceding each crop. Table 4.—Yields of rice in depth-of-plowing test. Land plowed in fall or winter, hree y ar average.

Depth Plowed, Inches	Average Yield,	Gain Over	Gain Over
	Pounds to the Acre	2-inch Depth	5-inch Depth
2 5 8	1706 1803 1980	97 274	177

In Table 5 the results cover a 5-year test on land plowed in the spring.

Table 5.-Yields of rice in depth-of-plowing test. Land plowed in spring, 5-year average.

Depth Plowed, Inches	Average Yield,	Gain Over	Gain Over
	Pounds to the Acre	2-inch Depth	5-inch Depth
2 5	1567 1703 1802	136 235	99

These results show increases in the yield of rice due to deeper plowing regardless of the time of plowing. The gains, also, are sufficient to pay the extra cost of deeper plowing and leave an appreciable net profit.

There is little difference in the yield of rice on land plowed in the fall or early winter and that plowed later in the season. Fall or early winter plowing, however, has much advantage over spring plowing because it distributes the field labor over a longer period and reduces the cost of preparing the land for planting, due to the fact that fallplowed land pulverizes readily with the disk and harrow.

Tests which have been conducted for six years, giving various amounts of preparation between the times of plowing and planting, show that two conditions should be attained in making the best seed bed for rice, and that these should prevail at time of planting: first, the ground should be sufficiently pulverized to insure a good stand; second, the land should be absolutely free of weeds. After these conditions have been secured additional preparatory tillage has not been beneficial.

PLANT ENOUGH SEED TO INSURE A GOOD STAND OF RICE.

Rice has been seeded at the rates of 60 pounds, 80 pounds, and 100 pounds of recleaned seed to the acre. The average yields in the experiments covering a period of five years show:

The 80-pound rate has produced 93 pounds to the acre more than the 60-pound rate.

The 100-pound rate has produced 53 pounds to the acre more than the 80-pound rate.

The 100-pound rate has produced 146 pounds to the acre more than the 60-pound rate.

These results show that an ample amount of seed should be sown.

The average of five years' results in seeding rice at the depths of

1 inch, 2 inches, and 3 inches, respectively, shows a small increase in favor of the medium depth.

In the test to determine the best time to seed rice, plantings have been made at intervals of two weeks from the middle of March to the latter part of June. The results of five years' work show little difference in yield of seedings made between the middle of April and the first part of June. Smaller yields on the average result from plantings made earlier and later than this period.

The method of drilling rice in moist ground has been compared with mudding in the seed. In each of the three years during which the test has been conducted the mudding method has produced higher yields than the method of drilling in moist ground.

KEEPING WEEDS OUT OF THE FIELDS INCREASED THE YIELDS OF RICE.

Tests have been conducted to find an effective method of controlling weeds in rice fields. A very successful means of accomplishing this result has been worked out in the experiments and is explained in detail in the bulletin entitled "Control of Weeds in Rice Fields."* One year's data have been secured since the results were published. This recent information corroborates the earlier tests and gives a 5-year average gain in yield of rice of 585 pounds to the acre where the weeds were controlled by this method, as is shown in the following table:

Table 6.—Comparison of common method of rice production with special weed control method, five-year average, 1914 to 1918, inclusive.

	Method of Production	Yie'd, Pounds to the Acre	Gain by Weed Control Method
Common. Weed con		1839 2424	585

HIGH YIELDING VARIETIES OF RICE ARE EASY TO FIND—QUALITY MUST BE CONSIDERED.

It is estimated by experts that there are more than 5000 varieties of rice in the world, to say nothing of numerous strains selected out of these. It is obvious that among this large number there must be some varieties that are superior to the varieties in general use in Texas.

A comparative test of varieties has been conducted including in different years 22 to 62 varieties planted in drilled plats and over 100 varieties and selections planted in rows. These rices were originally secured from various rice-growing countries of the world. In these tests comparisons have been made regarding yield, lodging, and general characters of the plant and grain. The results show the difficulty of securing varieties that yield high and also possess the other desirable characters necessary to make them successful commercial varieties. Some of the varieties tested, however, combine these factors in a satis-

^{*}Bulletin No. 239, Control of Weeds in Rice Fields, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, 1918. H. H. Laude.

factory way. The most common fault observed among high-yielding varieties is weak straw, which makes lodging prevalent among them. Average yields of rice produced in drilled plats by some of the

varieties tested two or more years are given in the following table:

T. S. Number or Name of Variety	Average Yield in Pounds to the Acre	Average Yield in Barrels to the Acre (162 Lbs.)
595	2523 2400 2334 2305	$\begin{array}{c} 19,32\\17,66\\17,59\\16,22\\15,57\\14,81\\14,40\\14,22\\13,54\\13,50\\13,14\\13,10\\12,62\\12,53\\12,40\\11,90\\\end{array}$

Table 7.--Average yields of varieties of rice.

The four varieties producing the highest average yields lodge badly and therefore are barred from consideration as commercial rices. T. S. Nos. 1587 and 1518 also lodge readily.



Fig. 3.—Varieties of rice grown in long narrow plats lying side by side so that accurate comparisons can be made.

T. S. No. 1583 stands up very well, is a rice of extra good quality, and has produced several hundred pounds to the acre more than the common varieties grown. This variety is being increased for distribution to growers.

REPORT OF EXPERIMENTS, SUBSTATION No. 4.

MANURE PRODUCED MORE CORN THAN ANY COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER.

Acid phosphate, cottonseed meal, and manure were applied separately and in combination to corn in 1916, the results of which are given in the following table:

Fertilizer Applied	Yield of Corn	
Kind	Pounds to the Acre	Bushels to the Acre
Manure Acid Phosphate	12000 200	30.82
Manure	12000	29.97
Cottonseed Meal Acid Phosphate	300 200	26.84
Cottonseed Meal	- 300 a	21.42
Acid Phosphate	200	20.56
Check—no fertilizer	0	20.39

Table 8.—Yields of corn in fertilizer test 1916.

The results show an increase of a little over 10 bushels an acre for manure and acid phosphate used in combination and slightly less for manure alone. Cottonseed meal and acid phosphate, when combined, gave an increase of 6 bushels, while each of these used alone gave small increases.

THE SUCCESS OF CORN IN THE RICE BELT DEPENDS MUCH UPON THE VARIETY PLANTED.

Varieties of corn have been tested for the purpose of finding those which produce the highest yields in the rice belt. The particular varieties included in the test as well as the number have varied from year to year. In 1914, 1916, 1917, and 1918 the number of varieties tested was 29, 31, 23, and 9, respectively. The variety test in 1915 was damaged to such an extent by a storm in August that reliable information as to the relative value of the different varieties could not be secured.

The highest yielding varieties together with their range in yields for each of the years are:

1914. U. S. Selection No. 136, Chappelle Prolific, Fentress Strawberry, Virginia White Dent, Surcropper, Creole Yellow, Mosby Prolific, Hearn White, and Ferguson Yellow Dent. The respective yields of these varieties ranged from 16.51 bushels to 11.46 bushels to the acre.

1916. Schieberle, Biggs Prolific, Fentress Strawberry, Hastings Prolific, Thomas, Cockes Prolific, St. Charles White, Chisholm, and Surcropper. The range in yield of these varieties was 31.22 bushels to 26.09 bushels to the acre.

1917. Schieberle, Ferguson Yellow Dent, White Mogul, Kirkpatrick Strawberry, Fentress Strawberry, Davis, Giant White Red Cob, Surcropper, and Experiment Station Yellow. These yielded from 40.70 bushels to 23.66 bushels to the acre respectively. 1918. Biggs Prolific, Chappelle Prolific, Hastings Prolific, Ferguson Yellow Dent, Thomas, Virginia White Dent, Creole, Surcropper, and Chisholm. These yielded 42.75 bushels to 33.25 bushels to the acre respectively.

Considering the number of tests in which each variety was included, the number in which the variety ranked relatively high in yield, as well as the particular seasons in which each was included in the test, the best varieties may be listed in the following order regarding yield: Schieberle, Biggs Prolific, Hastings Prolific, Ferguson Yellow Dent, Fentress Strawberry, Thomas, Surcropper, and Chisholm. In regard to quality these varieties may be listed in about the same order. Fentress Strawberry and Surcropper are softer than the other varieties and are too soft for best results in this locality.

COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS INCREASED THE YIELD OF COTTON BUT MANURE GAVE LARGEST INCREASES.

The fertilizers used for cotton consisted of acid phosphate, cottonseed meal, manure, and combinations of these. The average yields of seed cotton for two years, corrections for soil variation being made, are given in the following table:

Fertilizer Applied		Yield Seed Cotton, Pounds to the Acre Average 1916 and
Kind	Pounds to the Acre	1917
Manure	12000	781.7
Manure Acid Phosphate	12000 200	771.0
Acid Phosphate	200	599.9
Acid Phosphate Cottonseed Meal	200 300	584.9
Cottonseed Meal	300	434.2
Check—no fertilizer		370,1

Table 9.-Yields of seed cotton in fertilizer test

These results show that the use of 6 tons of manure more than doubled the yield of cotton. Acid phosphate gave gains of over 200 pounds of seed cotton to the acre, while cottonseed meal produced an increase of 64 pounds.

DRAINAGE AND ADAPTED VARIETIES ARE NECESSARY FOR PROFITABLE COTTON PRODUCTION.

The cotton variety test included 29 varieties in 1916 and 30 in 1917. The varieties producing more than 550 pounds to the acre of seed cotton in 1916 in order of yield are: Allen Express, Bank Account, Wooten Columbia, Cleveland Big Boll, Mortgage Lifter, and Mebane.

The varieties yielding more than 600 pounds to the acre of seed cotton in 1917 are: Hawkins, Trice, Mebane, Bank Account, Mexican Big Boll, Lone Star, Cleveland Big Boll, and Union Big Boll.

The varieties that were tested both years and that produced the highest average yield are given in the following table:

	Variety	Average Yie'd Seed Cotton, Pounds to the Acre
Mebane. Mortgage Lifter. Union Big Boll. Cleve'and Big Boll.		$\begin{array}{r} 633\\ 599\\ 543\\ 532\\ 526\\ 522\end{array}$

Table 10.-Yields of cotton varieties average 1916 and 1917.

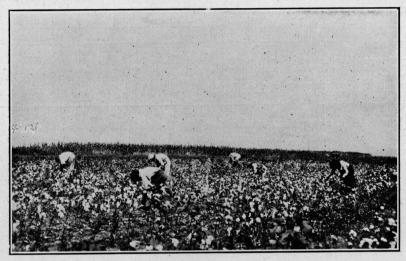


Fig. 4.—The different varieties of cotton are picked, weighed and ginned separately.

APPLICATION OF MANURE NEARLY DOUBLED THE YIELD OF SUDAN GRASS.

The yields of Sudan grass hay given in Table 11 show good increases for the different fertilizers.

Fertilizer Applied	Yield, Pounds to	
Kind	Pounds to the Acre	the Acre
Manure	12000	4105
Manure Acid Phosphate	12000 200	3497
Acid Phosphate	200	3262
Acid Phosphate Cottonseed Meal,	200 300	2985
Cottonseed Meal	300	2708
Check—no fertilizer		2328

Table 11.—Yields of Sudan hay on fertilized plats in 1917.

These results show manure to be the best fertilizer for Sudan grass, acid phosphate ranking second, and cottonseed meal third.

HEAVY RATES OF SEEDING SUDAN HAVE NOT DEEN NECESSARY.

Sudan grass produces a large amount of forage, which may be utilized for hay, pasture, or silage.

The yields of Sudan hay secured from the planting of different amounts of seed to the acre in close drills are given in the following table:

Pounds Seed to the Acre	Yield, Pounds Hay to the Acre- First Cutting		
	1914	1917	Average
9	4095 4967 4646 4481 4658	2500 2150 2140 2150 2550	3297 3558 3393 3315 3604

Table 12 .- Yields of Sudan hay in rate of seeding test.

These data show little difference for the different rates of seeding and indicate that the chief requirement is to secure a good uniform stand.

Sudan grass may be planted either in rows which are cultivated, or in close drills without cultivation. Usually heavier yields are secured by planting in rows and by giving one or two cultivations.

On account of heavy precipitation, high humidity, and poor drainage, frequently conditions are not favorable for curing Sudan hay. In order to use the crop more successfully growers should be prepared to pasture it or harvest it for silage when conditions are not suitable for curing hay.

ONE TON OF HAY WAS OBTAINED FROM 2.6 TONS OF GREEN SUDAN GRASS.

In 1917 the yields of green forage and cured hay were secured from the first cutting on a field of $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres of Sudan grass. The yield of green forage was 9,592 pounds to the acre, and of cured hay, 3,637 pounds to the acre. The ratio between green forage, which is equal to silage yield, and cured hay was, in this case, 2.6 to 1.

JAPANESE SUGAR CANE* MADE LARGE YIELDS ON RICE LAND.

The value of Japanese sugar cane as a forage crop on rice land has been quite conclusively shown. The difficulty in finding a satisfactory crop to grow after rice is the greatest obstacle in rotating rice with highland crops. Japanese sugar cane fills this place profitably and better than any other crop that has been tested.

The yield of Japanese sugar cane the first year after rice as an average of three years was 25,002 pounds to the acre of green forage.

^{*}For a more complete discussion see Texas Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin No. 195, entitled "Japanese Sugar Cane as a Forage Crop." Leidigh, McNess, and Laude.



Fig. 5.—Stubble crop of Japanese sugar cane on rice land. It is dense and almost seven feet high August 6.

The average of two second-year crops, that is, crops grown from the stubble, was 48,254 pounds to the acre. These results were secured on heavy rice land.

On lighter rice land where highland crops had preceded the cane the average yield of four first-year crops of Japanese sugar cane was 41,666 pounds to the acre of green forage. The average yield of three second-year crops grown from these stubble fields was 27,045 pounds to the acre.

Japanese sugar cane was planted in a well-drained field in November, 1915, and in 1916 yielded 63,263 pounds to the acre of green forage. This is the largest yield secured the first year and indicates the advisability of planting in the fall provided drainage is good. In 1917 a second-year crop after rice, yielding 65,677 pounds of green forage to the acre, was harvested from heavy rice land.

The results of the tests to determine the proper rate of seeding Japanese sugar cane show higher yields from the thicker rates.

Rates of Planting Canes in Rows Five Feet Apart	Yield—Green Forage, Pounds to the Acre, 3-year Average
1 line	20,552 27,131 30,666

The weight of seed cane required to plant an acre varies with conditions but can be approximately estimated at 1, 2, and 3 tons to the acre for the respective rates. The number of canes to the acre will, of course, depend upon the relative length of the canes, but may also be estimated, in the case of good seed canes, at 2000, 4000, and 6000 for the respective rates of planting given in the table.

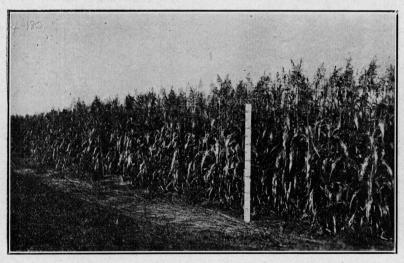


Fig. 6.—Shallu is one of the best grain sorghums, but it will not regularly produce high yields.

SORGHUMS CANNOT BE DEPENDED UPON FOR GRAIN.

The production of seed in several grain sorghums tested on the station has been rather uncertain on account of the sorghum midge. Some of the crops were not affected by the midge and produced good yields of grain. Sparrows have damaged all the grain sorghums when grown in small areas. All factors considered, Shallu is the best grain

REPORT OF EXPERIMENTS, SUBSTATION No. 4.

sorghum among those tested, which include Blackhul White kafir, Pink kafir, Schrock kafir, Feterita, and Shallu.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

Burr clover which was planted in the pasture has increased annually and furnishes much pasture in the winter and spring. Lespedeza is increasing rapidly in the lawn, pasture, and along the field roads. Both of these clovers are thoroughly inoculated with nitrogen-gathering bacteria.

Crimson clover treated with inoculation culture from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, was very well inoculated, while the check plats receiving no treatment showed practically no inoculation.

One to two tons to the acre of rice hay ranging in quality from good to excellent were obtained in 1915 after the main rice crop was harvested. The stems were small and the hay contained some grain.

Cowpeas can be depended upon to produce a heavy growth of vinesbut seed production is irregular.

Seven varieties of rust-resistant types of oats grown in the spring of 1916 were all seriously damaged by rust.

In a variety test of soy beans in 1917 wide variations were noted among varieties in regard to size of plant, time of maturity, seed yield, adaptability for forage production, percentage of protein, and oil content.

More than forty varieties and selections of castor beans were grown in 1918, exhibiting a wide range of variation in plant characters. In general it was observed that the dwarfer, earlier maturing types produced the most seed.

Eighty-seven bushels to the acre of Early Rose Irish potatoes were produced in the spring of 1916. Six other varieties yielded less.

Early fall planting of Irish potatoes in 1918 produced new potatoes until Christmas.

Tobacco made excellent growth in 1916 and 1917, but the quality and texture were poor.

Dewberry T. S. No. 4036, produced 615 gallons to the acre in 1917. Cantaloupes of excellent quality were grown in 1915 and 1916. The Rocky Ford type including the varieties Netted Rock King, Eden Gem, Rust' Resistant, and Improved Hoodoo were the best quality.

The Pencil Pod and Surecrop Stringless varieties have produced the best quality of wax garden beans, and Round Six Weeks and Stringless Green Podded have been superior among the green-podded varieties.

The small White Lima climbing bean produced throughout the summer and until frost in 1918.

Among the vegetables tested mustard, spinach, turnips, carrots, beets, radishes, lettuce, cabbage, and cauliflower are good winter truck crops. Tomatoes, egg-plant, peppers, and okra are among the most successful summer garden crops.

Technical research investigations were begun on the effect of different environments on the development of the rice plant, the results of which should indicate proper methods of culture.

SUMMARY.

PROFILE

Conditions on Substation No. 4 are especially suitable for the study of rice-farm problems.

Cottonseed meal produced the most rice, but a light application of ammonium sulphate and acid phosphate combined, or a medium application of either one alone was more profitable.

The application of fertilizers to rice aided weed growth, and sometimes caused the rice to lodge.

Deep plowing for rice has been very profitable when compared with shallow plowing.

Very little difference in yield of rice was found between fall or early winter plowing, and spring plowing.

The best seedbed for rice has been secured when the ground is sufficiently pulverized to insure a good stand and all the weeds are killed.

It is important to plant enough seed to insure a good stand of rice.

Rice can be "mudded in" very successfully when conditions are not favorable for drilling.

Weeds can be kept out of rice fields and the yields thereby materially increased.

High-yielding varieties of rice are easy to find, but consideration must also be given to stiffness of straw, shattering, and other factors affecting the value of the product.

Manure is the best of the fertilizers applied to corn, while cottonseed meal and acid phosphate combined rank second.

The success of corn in the rice belt depends much upon the variety planted.

Commercial fertilizers increased the yield of cotton, but manure produced greater increases.

Drainage and adapted varieties are necessary for profitable cotton production.

All the fertilizers used increased the yield of Sudan grass but manure produced much the highest yields.

Heavy rates of seeding Sudan grass have not been found necessary.

One ton of Sudan hay was obtained from 2.6 tons of green Sudan.

Japanese sugar cane in rotation with rice was the best crop tested for this purpose.

It seems advisable to plant Japanese sugar cane in the fall provided drainage is good.

Three lines of seed canes yielded more Japanese sugar cane than thinner rates of seeding. This is equal to about 6000 canes or 3 tons of seed canes to the acre.

Sorghums cannot be depended upon for grain on account of the sorghum midge, which destroys some of the crops.