PART 1. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1. Introduction

This report gives an account of the sample survey carried out by a team of post graduate students at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture during the 1959-1960 session.

The survey was planned and supervised, and the data analysed by a team consisting of: R.A. Bohun, T.G. Marks, J.P. Martel, J. Roche and W.R. Stent. Meetings were held under the chairmanship of Dr. A.L. Jolly. The field work was carried out by the team, together with other post graduate students at the College during the Christmas vacation, the precise dates being 21st - 23rd December, 1959 and 6th January, 1960.

Responsibility for various aspects of the survey was not laid down as strictly as in similar surveys of previous years, but the work devolved mainly as follows: the planning and supervision of the statistics (the writer), the questionnaire (Marks and Stent), the planning of the field work of enumeration (Marks and Martel), the preliminary report (Roche).

This report whilst being an attempt at a balanced description and discussion of the survey will deal in most detail with its statistical aspects.

2. The Use of Surveys in Agriculture

"There was complete agreement on the urgent need for the fullest possible information on agricultural output" (Report of the First Conference of Colonial Government Statisticians, 1950).

The report goes on to point out that because the people of most Colonial territories are dependent on agricultural resources, it is essential that every endeavour should be made to ensure that adequate statistics are available for the development of these resources.

Howard C. Grieves in his foreword to "Sample Survey Methods and Theory"