1. Introduction.

Mosaic Disease of the Papaw (Carica papaya L.) is common in Trinidad practically wherever the crop is grown and has been known in the island for several years. Larter and Russell (1) worked on the disease during the year 1930-31; Stevenson (2) and Gwynn (3) continued the investigations during the year 1931-32. These workers have described in detail the symptoms and nature of the disease; and also made repeated efforts to find the insect vector concerned in its spread, with a complete lack of success. During the past year the work has been continued and a special study has been made of the species and relative abundance of the insects found on the papaw; primarily in the hope that this detailed survey would give a clue to the identity of the vector; and secondarily that the records obtained would be of use to any entomologist who might work on the disease in the future.

2. Previous work.

Diseases similar to and possibly identical with the Mosaic disease found in Trinidad have been described from other West Indian islands and also from Queensland; but the descriptions in the literature available are in no case very full and it is difficult to state positively whether or no the diseases are identical. The Trinidad Mosaic disease is undoubtedly present in West Indian islands other than Trinidad, but is by no means general. Stevenson (2) spent a week in St. Vincent in 1932 and saw no trace of the disease, while Gwynn (3) recorded it as absent from Barbados in 1931. The writer spent four days in Grenada in Dec. 1932 but did not see the disease, and the Agricultural Officer stated that he had never seen it in the island. In March and April 1933 the writer also spent a week in British Guiana, but there again saw no trace of the disease.

Nowell (4) describes a disease under the name of 'Localised Stem Rot of Papaw' found in several islands, and gives a photograph taken in Trinidad. Though both the photograph and parts of the text suggest that Nowell was possibly really dealing with Mosaic disease; the writer agrees