

INTRODUCTION.

Pangola grass (Digitaria decumbens) has been grown in Florida for a number of years, having been selected from amongst a large number of introduced grass species because of its vigorous growth and persistence. Blair (1940). Continuous research there has now solved many of the major problems concerning its establishment, growth and management.

Pangola grass was introduced to I.C.T.A. from Surinam, Puerto Rico and Costa Rica in 1953, on the strength of its success abroad and so far swards of Pangola grass have shown great promise here, being quick to establish, persistent and having a high yield of grass suitable for grazing. These observations seem to indicate that Pangola grass in the broad aspects of its behaviour is much the same in Trinidad as at other stations where it has been studied, despite the varying soil and climatic conditions. That differences in behaviour do occur is undoubted, and work is needed to investigate these differences on a quantitative basis, especially related to Trinidad conditions.

The aim of this experiment is therefore to investigate the establishment of Pangola grass under various rates and types of fertilisation for a second season's growth, and to attempt a survey of the economics of the situation.

This work follows on directly from Oliver's work in 1957/58.