

ABSTRACT

Pangola grass pastures in Trinidad were found to vary in quality according to the soil characteristics and management practices. The incidence of Pangola grass in the sward was decreased markedly where impeded drainage occurred; it was not affected by p^H or by carbon : nitrogen ratio; it was greater where grass was mown more than once a year than where it was only mown once a year; it was greater where poorly drained land was cambered and the shape of the camber was shown to be important; and it was greater after establishment where stolons were disced into the soil than where this was not done.

Rejuvenation techniques for old pastures were investigated. It was found that rotavation was beneficial only where the Pangola grass population had dropped below a certain critical level, about 25%. Herbicides supplied as an overall spray were found to be beneficial only in the wet season. Dalapon at 2.2 kg/ha gave the best results, while paraquat and simazine were beneficial in some instances. 2,4,5-T decreased the incidence of broadleaved weeds; Gesapax '50'W was not suitable. More than 25 kg/ha of nitrogen applied before spraying decreased re-growth.