

INTRODUCTION

Food production is a vital part of any economic system and tropical countries, in particular, lacking any development of modern industries, must rely to a greater degree than more advanced countries on producing the bulk of their own food requirements. With this in mind the present survey of Food Gardens in three Counties of Trinidad was undertaken.

There was little or no real information about the amount and type of food crops grown in Trinidad.

Therefore the aims of this survey were to:-

(1) Find the types and relative quantities of the food crops grown.

(2) Estimate the potential production of these crops.

(3) Devise a rapid but yet accurate means of making these estimates other than verbal or visual methods.

The survey was undertaken by a team of eight postgraduate students, Messrs. Currie, Gunn, Hill, Law, Mawly, Meredith, Waterworth and Watson, under the guidance of Dr. A.L. Jolly.

A survey is essentially a team project therefore there was full co-operation and discussion of the work at all stages, although certain aspects became the particular responsibility of a member of the team. The decisions were made by the team after general discussion at the weekly meeting presided over by Dr. Jolly. Mr. G.E. Hodnett also attended these meetings in his capacity of statistical adviser. At the meetings the work to be done was decided on and delegated to various members.

Due to lectures and other commitments of the team the field work had to be completed during the Christmas vacation. The first term was spent preparing for the field work and the second and third terms were spent analysing and writing up the results.