

A SURVEY OF PEASANT AGRICULTURE TO THE
SOUTH OF ST. AUGUSTINE, WITH SPECIAL
REFERENCETO FACTORS LIMITING THE PROGRESS
TO IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL EFFICIENCY.

I N T R O D U C T I O N

1. Meditation -

The experience of compiling this report has served the writer in a number of ways. Primarily it has been a form of initial introduction to tropical crops, people, and methods of agriculture.

It was soon obvious that this introduction was a very delicate one, for, it held alarming contrasts after the sole ^{comparison} companionship of temperate agriculture in the United Kingdom.

It has therefore been a buffer between the desire to apply, possibly over-enthusiastic temperate agricultural ideals, and tropical agricultural necessities. It has forewarned the writer to observe these necessities, and therefore forearmed him for work in the Colonial Agricultural Service.

After the initial shyness of the introduction had disappeared, the opportunity for careful observation became apparent. This has finally led the writer to widen his views on tropical farming, and obstacles to its investigation, and even make tentative attempts to plan. This then has been the sequence of learning - primarily introduction, secondly observation, and finally a conversation has developed.

2. Sources of Information -

The writer has boldly considered himself an agricultural officer, and the area his district.

Previous student reports on this same area were scrutinized, and the salient features noted, and checked.

Numerous walks over the area and conversations with the peasants have been responsible for much of the information obtained.

Lectures and discussions in the College with students and staff have, naturally, been invaluable in the construction of this survey.

Members of the staff of the Agricultural Department of Trinidad and Tobago have also been consulted, and proved to be extremely helpful and generous with information.