

INTRODUCTION.

Part of an Agricultural officer's reason for being is the study of the peasant's way of life and his agri-culture, and after due consideration of the facts revealed to propose means of improving the agricultural systems and subsequently the peasants way of life.

* Past students have thoroughly investigated the area mentioned in the title, and the need arises to utilise these facts in the study of some problem of a more narrow nature. The importance of rice in tropical nutrition is receiving increasing attention nowadays. This is certainly so in Trinidad and it was felt by the writer that here was a subject which was worthy of more detailed study.

(1) Previous reports and surveys were read and relevant data was noted and checked in the field. With the information received it was decided to divide the report into two parts, the first being short general notes of the area, appertaining to rice, and the second part going into rice more specifically.

Information further to previous reports and surveys, was obtained by conversations with the peasant farmers and other knowledgeable persons, and from observations made in the field.