

PART I.

BOVINE SEMEN, ITS PHYSIOLOGICAL
CHARACTERISTICS AND THEIR POSSIBLE
CORRELATION WITH FERTILITY.

INTRODUCTION

Many investigations have been carried out with and proved in temperate countries, must be used as a bovine semen in various parts of the world, but the basis of study in the wet tropics and in this way any bulk of the work has been in temperate regions. Fundamental variations will be observed. Artificial insemination is increasing in importance in the tropics, as a means of livestock improvement, and in Trinidad it is hoped to start an Artificial Insemination Centre in the near future. Before this can be successfully accomplished considerable study must be directed towards the methods of semen collection, storage and insemination. The first part of this project is concerned with the handling and storage of semen as recommended in "temperate" literature to ascertain whether the same practices are applicable to Trinidad.

No precisely designed experiments were undertaken, but motility readings were recorded on as many semen samples from Holstein-Ongole bulls as was possible, with a view to observing the behaviour of semen obtained from grade bulls maintained under wet tropic conditions.

Artificial insemination was carried out with the inspected semen on cows and heifers at the College to determine any correlations as might exist between motility and fertility.