

## I. Statement of Problem.

The primary aim of the present investigation was to obtain as much personal experience of cotton as possible in the short time available. With this end in view, it was originally intended to conduct a yield trial for different spacings, but it was early seen that, because of the obvious heterogeneity of the soil, much more would be gained by expanding the study into that indicated by the present title. The cotton used was an alleged pure line of an ordinary commercial strain of Sea Island, obtained from Montserrat.

No previous work has been done on the development of the cotton plant in Trinidad, so that the optimum date for planting has not yet been determined, and accordingly, it was also hoped to obtain some information on this point by a study of the environmental factors and their effect on growth.

The heterogeneity of the soil eventually proved to be more of an advantage than a disadvantage, for, while it made a comparison of the yields from the different spacings less precise, it enabled a study to be made of the varying soil conditions, specially water-supplying power, on the general development of the cotton plants.

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