

Manurial Treatments.

The scope of the experimental section of this experiment is confined to an investigation of the fundamental effects of the different manurial constituents on the yield, size and general quality of the fruit. An attempt has been made to investigate the

Introduction.

Little or no experimental work has been carried out on the production of tomatoes in the tropics. This investigation has been carried out to compare the relative fundamental importance of the different manurial constituents - nitrogen, phosphate and potash on the general growth and vigour of the tomato plant and their ultimate effect on the yield and quality of the fruit produced.

The importance of different cultural treatments has also been studied.

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The costs of production on each treatment have been recorded in view of the possibility of Trinidad participating in the recently developed trade in this commodity between West Indian Islands and Canada. The soils used were chosen as they are not given a chance to show their full effect as other limiting factors such as soil texture and soil moisture relations come into play which in themselves probably affect the crop and tend to inhibit normal growth. Rather than reduce the application of organic matter the artificial manures should be increased and so make any manurial ingredients in the former relatively unimportant.

Last year the manures were applied singly thus getting the effects of that one manure in the absence or relative deficiency of the others. This year the problem is being tackled from another aspect. The manures have been applied in pairs so that in each case one manurial constituent is lacking thus any effect that is shown will be due to the absence or relative deficiency of the constituent not applied. In the former case a complete manurial treatment was taken as the control. It is believed that a more accurate and fair representation of the effect of any one manure will be