

I. INTRODUCTION

The keeping of comprehensive Dairy Records in Trinidad is confined to the large scale producers of milk whose production represents but a small part of the total production of the island. There are 15,517 cows on the island, 5,340 of which are kept on small plots of an acre or less. (Annual Statistical Digest - 1955). Of the remaining 10,000 it is doubtful if more than 500 are kept on farms which record, there being only six farms doing so. It has been estimated from figures available for the total milk production of the island that the average per cow is not more than 250 gallons per year (Williams 1952), which compares unfavourably with yields obtained on the farms investigated.

It will thus be apparent that any analysis of Dairy records can give only an indication of what performances can be obtained where management, feeding and housing are well above the average and is not a true reflection of the Dairy Industry as a whole in Trinidad.