

INTRODUCTION.

In a paper presented in accordance with the regulations governing the award of the Associateships of this College Briant and Martyn (9) describe a number of diseases affecting certain leguminous cover crops.

The present paper aims primarily at continuing their work on one of those diseases, viz:- a mosaic disease affecting *Vigna catieng* and *Phaseolus mungo*.

In the limited time at their disposal, Briant & Martyn were unable to push their investigations into this particular disease very far, so that an enquiry even into the more general aspects of the problem has fallen to the lot of the present writers. This fact in part accounts for the somewhat comprehensive nature of the title of this paper.

Another circumstance contributing to the general nature of the title is the fact that the authors' investigations quickly brought to light other diseases and pests of the crop plants, some of which may prove to be of greater significance than the mosaic. It was accordingly thought undesirable to ignore everything but mosaic disease, although that was the main problem. The authors had two alternatives, either to produce several short papers on the different diseases and pests or to combine all the aspects into one more comprehensive paper. Rightly or wrongly, the latter plan was acted upon.

The term "mosaic" has come to lose much of its original significance in many instances; it is seen applied in literature to diseases differing fundamentally from each other. Indeed, almost any condition of a plant which is accompanied by a mottling of the leaves has been described as "mosaic". In the present paper, the authors confine the term to what they believe to be its original significance and define it as a disease, caused by a filter passing virus

