

I N T R O D U C T I O N

Market gardening in the Tropics is generally on a peasant scale and systems involving capital are being investigated at the New College Farm, I.C.T.A.; but the technique used there originated in temperate regions and may be unsuitable for the tropics, for which peasants have evolved systems through hard experience.

In a survey of peasant farming at Aranguez in Trinidad, Bell (1) found that tomatoes were the most important vegetable grown; so it was felt that a comparison of the two systems applied to that crop would be valuable, and lead to experiments determining which was the better.

With this aim, tomato production in the Aranguez Market Garden Area has been compared with a method of production at the College Farm, both cultural and economic factors being studied. The information obtained has been used to decide treatments for an experiment on contrasting features of the two systems.