

INTRODUCTION

Coconut growers in many parts of the world, including the West Indies, harvest their nuts after they have dropped and thus save the cost and labour of picking. For different reasons, the frequency with which dropped nuts are collected varies and nuts sometimes lie on the ground for a considerable time before being collected. This project was intended to determine whether or not such treatment had any effect on the weight of whole nut and weight of wet kernel, as well as the moisture and oil contents of the meat. The importance of such an investigation is readily seen; changes in weight of nut and water content of the meat are of interest to the grower and drier, in that they affect transportation and drying costs. Changes in oil content will interest the processor.