

INTRODUCTION.

The present paper represents an attempt to study the problem of grain storage and insect pests, mainly from the peasant-cultivator's standpoint.

There is a considerable quantity of literature on the subject of insect control in grain, but most of it is of little value, from our point of view, since it deals with methods which are either impracticable or dangerous, to a relatively unintelligent peasant community. The few remaining remedies which do seem to meet the case have received such inadequate attention from investigators, that their efficacy seems an open question.

Again, as much of the past work has been done in the United States and India, it was thought conceivable that the results obtained in these countries might not apply, in some particulars, to a different set of conditions, such as prevail in, say Trinidad. Consequently, some attempt has been made to confirm, under local conditions, several of the points connected with life-histories, moisture relations, and a few minor features.

Section I. of the paper is essentially a critical survey of the literature on the subject, special attention being given where such literature closely concerns the work of the writers.

Section II. outlines the objects of, and the ground covered by, the present experiments.

Section III. explains the actual experiments in detail, their results, and the conclusions drawn.

Section IV. gives a brief summary of the entire paper.