

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A B S T R A C T

This dissertation could not have been prepared without the assistance and criticism of Dr. P.W. Hayes. Many hours were devoted to this subject, and

A trial using seven varieties of Sweet Potato, (*Ipomoea batatas* L.LAM.) was laid down at the U.W.I. Field Station. Sample plants were harvested on four separate occasions and many measurements of vine components, fresh and dry weights of plant parts, and leaf areas were recorded and calculated. From this data, a system has been devised using the mean branch length, and branch number, by which four different types of stem systems can be recognised. The seven varieties grown in this trial are used to detail this system and suggestions for refinements are included.

To all of you, Thank you!