

SUMMARY

In the introduction emphasis is laid upon the necessity of revising seedling production methods as used in the sub-tropics, because of wet tropical conditions in Trinidad. The nature of tobacco seed is then discussed, followed by a description of the desirable climatic and soil conditions for growing flue cured tobacco.

The History and inherent characteristics of the Imperial College New Farm Market Garden area are outlined in Section A. This is followed in sections B, C & D, by a consideration of the various aspects of tobacco seedling production.

Section E contains a description of the various experimental techniques adopted in seedling experiments. The design of experiments and application of statistical methods are also discussed.

A report is made on eight experiments. The results of trials with different seedrates, fertilisers and seedbeds are given. It was proved statistically that a better establishment of transplanted seedlings can be obtained if plants with a rosette growth habit are grown with a compound fertiliser mixture. The last experiment proved that soil sterilisation with methyl bromide will give a good control of all weeds in tobacco seedbeds.

Recommendations are made for the production of good quality tobacco seedlings and for future experimental work.