

(1)

PART 1.

RICE VARIETY TRIAL.

1. INTRODUCTION.

(a) GENERAL.

Rice (*Oryza sativa*, L) is one of the most important food crops in the world. Hunter and Leake (63) consider that "to rice must be given the credit of being the most important source of human food". Figures compiled for the period 1928-32 from the International Yearbook of Agricultural Statistics (Appendix XI) show that the area under rice in the world is the largest of any single crop, apart from maize and wheat. For the period of 10 years from 1928 to 1937 (Appendix X), the world annual production of rice was in the region of 133,000,000 tons and its area 188,000,000 acres.