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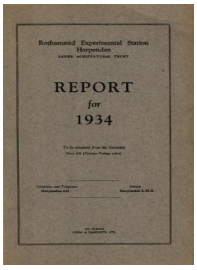
Report for 1934

Full Table of Content



Insecticides

Rothamsted Research

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sky: of all these factors temperature appears to be the most important. Dr. Barnes continued his work on gall midges and Mr. H. C. F. Newton carried a stage further his observations on the ovipositional and feeding reactions of the sawfly *Pteronidea melanaspis*.

The investigations on bees made during the last eleven years by Mr. D. T. M. Morland have attracted more and more attention from practical beekeepers and last year the British Bee Keepers Association guaranteed the sum of £250 annually for a period of three years, to which the Agricultural Research Council adds another £250, to permit of the investigation of Brood diseases. Dr. H. L. Tarr was appointed to the work and began on May 1st, 1934. The Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine is kindly allowing Dr. Tarr the use of their laboratories for the serological and other investigations thereby saving considerable reduplication of costly equipment and ensuring adequate control on the bacteriological side. A very successful conference with practical beekeepers was held in May, 1934, in which their experience was freely set out for the benefit of the investigators. This led to a request for further conferences and a further one was held in May, 1935, on swarming, a subject on which Mr. Morland has been working for the past few years and has now accumulated a mass of valuable information. Some 350 persons attended this Meeting and as no hall could be had to hold them, a marquee had to be erected.

INSECTICIDES

Drs. Tattersfield and Martin are studying further improvements in the method of the chemical evaluation of samples of pyrethrum, and they have begun a parallel investigation on derris. The results so far obtained have attracted wide interest and Dr. Tattersfield has been invited to the United States to confer with American experts on the subject.

Owing to shortage of staff the work on soil insecticides and fumigants has been in abeyance for a few years but this is now resumed, thanks to a grant from Imperial Chemical Industries, and Mr. W. R. S. Ladell has been appointed in charge.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT

Much of the time of this department is occupied with the design and analysis of replicated experiments at Rothamsted, Woburn and elsewhere and this work continues to expand as shown by the following table:

	Number of Experiments			*Plot Yields Analysed*		
Year.	Rothamsted and Woburn.	Outside Centres.	Total.	Rothamsted and Woburn.	Outside Centres.	Total.
1925	8	—	8	328	—	328
1926	13	4	17	740	73	813
1927	12	5	17	802	150	952
1928	11	12	23	1,267	392	1,659
1929	12	12	24	1,565	352	1,917
1930	14	24	36	1,341	918	2,259
1931	13	41	52	2,044	1,968	4,012
1932	17	49	64	2,153	3,792	5,945
1933	15	78	93	2,539	4,870	7,409
1934	17	98	115	2,060	7,082	9,142