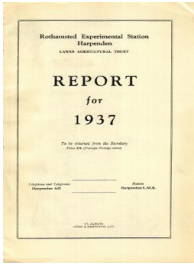
This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.

Thank you for using eradoc, a platform to publish electronic copies of the Rothamsted Documents. Your requested document has been scanned from original documents. If you find this document is not readible, or you suspect there are some problems, please let us know and we will correct that.

Report for 1937

Full Table of Content



The Farm

Rothamsted Research

Rothamsted Research (1938) *The Farm ;* Report For 1937, pp 71 - 71 **- DOI: https://doi.org/10.23637/ERADOC-1-69**

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.

Increasing attention has been devoted to soil insects and the Department will probably orient its work more and more in this direction for the next few years. Sterilisation of the soil kills all insects but recolonisation soon begins and the population may become three or four times as great as in the untreated soil: it rose as high as 450 millions per acre in one experimental plot.

Especial attention has been paid to the control of wire worms by insecticides and trapping. This work is done in association with the leading groups of heavy chemical manufacturers in the country, Imperial Chemical Industries Dyestuffs Group, and the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers.

Intensive studies on leather jackets are made in association with the Golf Green Research Station at St. Ives.

INSECTICIDES

Considerable developments have occurred during 1936-1937 and this work has now been much extended owing to the action of the Colonial Office and the Ministry of Agriculture in providing additional funds for the examination of British Empire products: Derris and other vegetable insecticides can now be investigated more expediently and more extensively than in the past.

The investigations on pyrethrum have now reached a stage where general conclusions and a full report become possible.

INVESTIGATIONS ON HONEY PRODUCTION

These fall into three groups:

(1) Problems of honey production under healthy conditions;
(2) Bee diseases;
(3) Properties of honey, studied with a view to devising methods of detecting adulteration.

Separate reports are submitted on these subjects but attention should be drawn to the marked interest taken in this work by the honey producers who contributed considerably towards its expense in spite of the circumstance that most of them are only in a small way of business.

THE FARM

As far as possible any records likely to be of practical interest are taken. For some years past measurements have been made of the power consumed in the ordinary farm work of thrashing, grinding, chaff cutting, etc. Electric motors and oil engines have both been used so as to compare units of electricity with gallons of paraffin as sources of power, and to obtain some estimate of the incidental advantages associated with each. This work was done at the instance of the Royal Agricultural Society and paid for out of the grant made by them; it is now completed and the final report is being drawn up.

Experiments are also being commenced on the ploughing up of grassland with a view of studying some of the problems raised during the ploughing up programme of 1917 but left unsolved since.

On the commercial farm the method of rearing calves has been replaced by a much cheaper one which if satisfactory should prove of some value.

https://doi.org/10.23637/ERADOC-1-69