

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 702

Press

~~Mis.~~

200 201

Dated

23-10-1918

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd April 1863.*

No. 200. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th April 1863:—
Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to
W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Bellary,
9th April 1863, No. 54.

SIR,

* In Cuddapah District.

I have the honor to forward a Memorandum regarding an experiment made* with upwards of a ton of Egyptian Cotton seed, which I procured from Madras in last Autumn, and distributed to the Cotton growers of Cuddapah District. It will be noticed that the experiment would have been made, in preference, with American Cotton, and the object of forwarding the said Memorandum which was drawn up, after I gave over charge of the District, and was en route for Bellary, is to show the importance and feasibility of making an experiment on a large scale at the present time, with an improved staple.

MEMORANDUM.

1. *Narsojee* of Jamalamadugu sowed 10 Acres with Egyptian seed, 12 lbs. to the Acre, in September last. The season was very good, abundance of rain at the proper time. The plants shed their leaves when a span high having been attacked by the worm, but recovered. The crop is estimated at 1,500 lbs. of seed Cotton, or 350 lbs. of clean Cotton, half of the seed only is considered to have germinated; 35 lbs. per Acre is not much of a crop, but the Cotton appears to be good, white and clean. The crop was not irrigated.

2. The *Tahsildar* of Jamalamadugu sowed half an Acre, and the produce was 40 lbs. to the acre. This crop had one watering.

3. V. Narapa sowed half an Acre. Produce per acre 40 lbs.

4. T. Linga Reddi do. do. do.

5. T. Soobanna do. do. do.

6. A. Rajaya 2 Acres, 35 lbs.

7. Balreddi 30 Acres which failed.

8. C. Chench Reddi 30 Acres, $\frac{1}{2}$ th germinated.

9. B. Peddaia 30 Acres, failed and was ploughed up and sown with indigenous.

10. W. Sunjivi Reddi 1 Acre. Produce per Acre 30 lbs.

12. Bala Kamalia sowed $2\frac{1}{2}$ Acres, watered four times.

12. Abai, &c. sown in November $1\frac{1}{2}$ Acres watered five times.

13. Nagireddi sown in 28th December $\frac{1}{2}$ Acre watered twice, as yet not ready.

14. *Tahsildar* of Pulivenda sowed in Sept. 10 Acres, failed for want of rain, 10 lbs. an Acre.

15. Nagireddi 5 Acres, 15 lbs. an Acre.

16. Ram Reddi 6 do. 10 do.

17. Latchi Reddi 3 do., withered from drought.

18. Peddarangappa (September) 30 Acres, not ripe, estimated 5 lbs. per Acre.

19. C. Venkat Reddi 30 Acres, not good from want of water.

3. In short, in Pulivendla Talook 100 Acres and upwards,

Jamalamadugu 200 do.

Podatoor 200 do. or upwards of 500 Acres were sown with

Egyptian Cotton as an experiment; there being no American Cotton seed to be had at Madras. The season was for Cotton a good one. The September rains having been copious, and the result of the experiment appears to be that the climate of Cuddapah is too arid for the Egyptian plant, unless accompanied by irrigation, still it was a manifest improvement on the indigenous.

3. The Deputy Collector Royappa sowed $4\frac{1}{2}$ Acres in garden land in November, it has had five waterings besides the rain, it grew more than three feet in height, average 60 pods to the tree. Soil mixed, rich, assessed at 14 Rupees per acre; estimated produce 25 lbs. to the acre. If the crop be gathered without loss from disease it will be worth at 12d. per lb., Rupees 175 per Acre, and return a large profit.

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4. The proportion of Cotton to seed of the Egyptian, is taken at nearly one-third, whereas of the indigenous it is only one-fourth. It parts easily from the seed, whereas the country fibre adheres very tenaciously.

5. A preference is distinctly stated by the Deputy Collector to exist in favor of American Cotton over the Egyptian. Seed should therefore be supplied to the Ryots, who freely paid the carriage of the seed, but they cannot get American seed without some one to help them to it. Some tons of the best American seed should be sent out to be distributed to the Ryots by those whose interest it is to be supplied with that staple. The recent trial of Egyptian has done much to encourage the Ryots. Its careful cultivation as a garden crop seems to promise an adequate return if the prices keep up, but a Cotton which will not require artificial irrigation is more suited for extensive cultivation.

6. Experiments on so large a scale as 500 Acres would not have been made, but for the liberality of Government in allowing remission of assessment on land devoted to improvement of the Cotton plant. This remission being to continue for four years more, it is a favorable opportunity for the trial of American Cotton on a large scale, which after so large a trial will soon spread over the District.

7. If, instead of sending pictures of fibre and agricultural advice, such as deep ploughing when the instrument in use is more of the nature of a harrow in its effect, and when no cattle could draw heavy ploughs, and advising a free use of manure, which the Ryots would have been too glad to have done, had any one supplied them with it, the Cotton Supply Committee had forwarded some tons of American seeds, and instructed their agents to buy the crop, a very practical result would have ensued. I do not know how Government is to get the American seed, but I state the want. Government have done every thing, and the Ryots are ready, but in spite of a certainty of short American supply for two years to come, and distress, the most obvious step of supplying the seed by those who want the staple has not been taken. I would recommend the supply of American seed by Government, as most important for the improvement of the local manufacture of turbans and waist cloths. The new staple will pay in this country and the weavers and consumers will be grateful to Government. The head-cloths woven of Egyptian Cotton were particularly admired.

(Signed) A. WEDDERBURN, Acting Collector.

1. Ordered to be submitted to Government, and that copy be furnished to the Chamber of Commerce and to Mr. Agnew, the Agent or Secretary to the Cotton Supply Association.
2. The Board are much obliged to Mr. Wedderburn for this interesting Report.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, Secretary.

No. 201. ORDER THEREON, 23rd April 1863, No. 702.

1. The Collector's letter and Memorandum will be forwarded to the Home Government, and application made for a supply of American Cotton seed.
2. Application will also be made to the Bombay Government, who may perhaps be able to procure some.

(Signed.) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 702. ✓

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Just to George & I
23rd April 1863
Copies to Mr. B. & Mr. C. 24th

E. & L. Wille

Copy in a Letter to England
24th April 1862

Rev = 1803 (Depart-
Pro: of Govt. 4 April.
W. 898.

28-7-11

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue.

Dated 17th
Desp^d 17 } April 1863
Rec^d 18th }
E. J. A. R.

E. A. B.

Remitted Line Co. dated
1 Octob^r/67 \$2.375.

Submitting a letter from
the Acting Collector of Bel.
= lary forwarding a Memorandum
= lary regarding an experi-
= ment made, in Buddapah
District, with upwards of
a ton of Egyptian Cotton
Seed &

No. 200 & 201.

N^o 702-23 April

W. H. Anderson

Sp20 April 1892