

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1263	Press Mis.
Dated	28.5.	1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23th May 1866.*

No. 480. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th May 1866, No. 3,239.

Read the following letter from the Acting Sub-Collector in charge of Bellary District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th April 1866, No. 76 :—

In continuation of my letter, No. 194, dated 26th September 1865, I have the honor to forward the accompanying original letter, No. 152, dated 19th instant, from the Acting Sub-Collector, reporting on the system of agriculture followed in his Division.

From the Acting Sub-Collector of Bellary, to the Collector of Bellary, dated Anantapur, 19th April 1866, No. 152.

1. With reference to the Miscellaneous Circular, No. LXXVII., (Board No. 3,553,) dated 27th June 1865, I have the honor to report on the system of agriculture and the nature of crops raised, and the description of lands, in the five Talooks comprising the Sub-Division.

2. In the list which accompanied the above Proceedings, dry and wet lands are defined as shewn below :—

1.—Alluvial and exceptional series.

- | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| 1. Lanka or Island soils | ... | ... | ... | ... | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |
| 2. Permanently improved Totacul or Jareeb and other lands. | | | | | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |

2.—Regur series.

- | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| 3. Clay regur, containing upwards of two-thirds of clay | ... | ... | ... | ... | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |
| 4. Mixed or loamy regur containing from one-third to two-thirds of clay | ... | ... | ... | ... | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |
| 5. Sandy regur, containing no more than one-third clay | ... | ... | ... | ... | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |

3.—Red ferruginous series.

- | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| 6. Clay containing upwards of two-thirds of clay | ... | ... | ... | ... | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |
| 7. Mixed or loamy, containing from one-third to two-thirds clay | ... | ... | ... | ... | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |
| 8. Sandy or gravelly containing not more than one-third clay | ... | ... | ... | ... | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |

4.—White and grey Calcareous series.

- | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| 9. Clay upwards of two-thirds clay | ... | ... | ... | ... | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |
| 10. Mixed or loamy, one-third to two-thirds clay | ... | ... | ... | ... | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |
| 11. Sandy or gravelly under one-third clay | ... | ... | ... | ... | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |

5.—Arenaceous series.

- | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| 12. Loamy or mixed, one-third to two-thirds clay | ... | ... | ... | ... | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |
| 13. Sandy, from one-third to one-tenth clay | ... | ... | ... | ... | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |
| 14. Land under one-tenth clay | ... | ... | ... | ... | { 1st sort. |
| | | | | | { 2nd do. |

3. With the exception of lands of description numbered 1, 3, and 4, fields of all the other descriptions of lands are to be found in the Sub-division. There is not black-cotton soil.

"ragudu," and the little that can be classed under that head is not of that superior quality which is found in Allur, and some other Talooks, under the immediate charge of the Collector.

4. In the accounts dry lands are classed under three heads, viz., ragudu, black-cotton soil, masabu, or mixed and red. The extent and assessment of these lands are as follow:—

	Acres.	Assessment.	Average per acre.
Ragadu, black cotton soil	720	550	0 12 2
Masabu, or mixed	...	...	...
Red	6,08,349	1,61,255	0 4 3
	6,09,069	1,61,805	0 4 3

5. Among the description of lands enumerated in the second paragraph of this report, some lands of the description numbered from 9 to 14 are of worst description, owing to the presence of salts (Telugu sowd), and therefore unfit for cultivation. They are always barren, even grass does not grow on them, and nothing known by the natives can render the soil fertile.

6. The following descriptions of grain are produced on lands fit for cultivation. But the return, of course, depends on the quality of the soil:—

Description of grain.	Names of Talooks in which they are grown.	TIME FOR SOWING.		TIME FOR REAPING.		At what interval rain is required.
		Beginning.	End.	Beginning.	End.	
Moongarri, or first crop, Jonna.	In five Talooks.	June.	July.	November.	December.	Once in fifteen days and, at least, once a month.
Hingarri, or second crop, Chitta Jonna.	Do.	October.	October.	January.	February.	
Sazuloo	Do.	June.	July.	November.	December.	
Oil Seeds	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	March.	
Korra	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	January.	
Gingely oil seeds.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	December.	
Dholl	Do.	Do.	August.	January.	February.	
Green gram	Do.	Do.	July.	November.	Do.	
Alasandalu	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	
Anamulu	Do.	Do.	August.	January.	Do.	
Horse gram	Do.	August.	October.	December.	Do.	
Cotton	Do.	June.	September.	February.	May.	
Harikalu	Do.	Do.	July.	January.	February.	
Hamulu	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	
Korra sown in Hingary, or second crop.	Do.	October.	November.	Do.	March.	
Bengal gram	Do.	November.	December.	February.	April.	
Black Dholl	Do.	July.	July.	November.	December.	
Ragulu...	With the exception of Anantapur and Dhurmavaram Talooks.	June.	Do.	October.	November.	
Indigo	Penkonda.	July.	Do.	November.	December.	
Kasumulu	Penkonda and Hindupur.	Do.	August.	March.	April.	
Verry Nulu	With the exception of Anantapur, Dhurmavaram.	August.	Do.	November.	December.	

7. The following is the method followed in cultivating dry lands:—

The red lands are ploughed with a yoke of two bullocks lengthways and crossways, then the land is smoothed over with an implement called a "Guntaka," and then the seed is sown. Second and third years, the lands are not ploughed, but only smoothed once and then sown. This course is everywhere followed, but in the Hindupoor Talook the lands sown with ragudu and anamulu are manured, and, if convenient, a flock of sheep is penned in them. The black-cotton soil, or ragudu lands, are ploughed with a plough of twelve bullocks, or eight bullocks lengthwise and crosswise, and after being smoothed with the "Guntaka," seed is sown. In the second and succeeding years, the lands are only smoothed over, and grain is sowed. The practices of manuring and penning a flock on such land are not everywhere followed, but in some villages lands are manured and sheep penned on them. Masub, or mixed soil lands, next in degree of excellence to ragud or black-cotton soil lands, are cultivated in the same way as ragud lands, and those that differ much from ragud lands are cultivated in the same manner as red lands. A month or a month and a half after the plants have germinated the three description of lands, viz., ragud, masub and red lands, are weeded.

8. From want of seasonable rains, for the last ten years the crops have not been as good as was to be expected, but in the preceding years, the fall of rain on the whole being copious, the produce according to the class of lands was very fair.

9. All dry lands are not fit for cultivation. Superior lands of this class yield produce for three years, and the next in degree only two years; and, unless they are left fallow for two or three years, they do not yield a good crop, and so these lands are left waste when they prove unproductive. Ragudu, or black-cotton soil, and masub, or mixed lands, need not be left fallow. They can be always brought under cultivation, and they yield produce according to the quality of the soil. All ragudu or black-cotton soil, and such masub lands as in their nature similar to ragudu land, require a plough of twelve or eight bullocks to break up the land, and if for ten years the land is kept free from weed, and the nutt grass yearly removed, and then brought under cultivation, they will not again require to be ploughed with a large plough for twenty years.

10. The cultivation in ragudu lands is in rotation of crops. In the first year korra and cotton are sown, in the second year jonna, and then according to the nature of the season, the lands are sown with korra and cotton or jonna, &c. The masub lands are ploughed with a plough of four or six bullocks, and sown with cotton and korra, and then jonna or jorra or cotton, &c. But after the lapse of three years, to keep the land free from grass, it must be first ploughed with a plough of four or six bullocks prior to sowing.

Red lands are usually ploughed with a plough of two bullocks, and in the first year are, as a rule, sown with horse-gram; in the second year with saggalu and jonnalu; in the third year, oil-seeds, &c.; and in the fourth year the lands are given up to lie fallow. The red lands, which require to be left fallow after three years, chiefly are to be found in the Anantapur and Dhurmavaram Talooks.

11. In wet lands the following description of crops are raised. The season for sowing and reaping, as also the periods at which they require to be watered, are shewn below :—

Description of grains.	Names of Talooks in which they are produced.	TIME FOR SOWING.		TIME FOR REAPING.		Interval between successive waterings.
		Beginning.	End.	Beginning.	End.	
Paddy ...	Five Talooks.	July.	August.	December.	January.	Must be constantly watered.
Chennangi do. ...	Do.	June.	July.	November.	December.	Do.
Kasari do. ...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
Jonnala do. ...	Do.	May.	Do.	October.	November.	Once in eight or ten days.
Ragalloo ...	Do.	June.	August.	Do.	Do.	Do.
Turmeric ...	With the exception of Anantapur Talook.	Do.	July.	March.	April.	Do.
Tobacco ...	Five Talooks.	August.	October.	February.	March.	Do.
Chilly trees ...	Do.	June.	July.	November.	February.	Do.
Onions ...	Do.	July.	August.	October.	November.	Do.
Garlic ...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
Fenugreek ...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
Ground-nut ...	With the exception of Hindupur, Penkonda, and Madacaseera.	Do.	Do.	January.	February.	Do.
Coriander ...	Do.	Do.	Do.	October.	November.	Do.
Mustard ...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
Sugar-cane ...	In five Talooks.	February.	March.	January.	March.	Do.
Betel leaf Garden.	Do.	August.	September.	From	June.	Do.
Jonnala (Hemp-plant.)	Hindupur.	June.	July.	November.	December.	Do.
Drupier Garden	Five Talooks.	January.	March.	August.	November.	Do.
Areca.	Do.	April.	June.	...	...	Reaped when they come to maturity.
Cocoanut ...	Do.	...	...	...	...	...

The cultivation of sugar-cane plantation is extensively carried on in Penkonda and Hindupur Talooks, but partially in other Talooks. There are many drupier, cocoanut, areca gardens in the Madacaseera Talook, and in other Talooks there are comparatively few.

12. The system followed in the cultivation of paddy is as follows :—

A flock of sheep is penned on the ground, it is then inundated for five or six days, then ploughed lengthways and crossways. After a lapse of eight days again ploughed, and then manure by the leaves of the (Trangadi) Cassia Ariculita, (Vanpalaku) wild Indigo, (Kanagaku) Indian beech, and other trees are thrown in at the rate of fifty bandies per acre; again ploughed, and manure consisting of cow-dung, house-sweepings, &c., is thrown up, and the land being again ploughed and smoothed once with an implement named a "Guntaka," or long plank of wood drawn by bullocks, and the grain is sown. When the crop is one month old the ground is weeded, and then crops are separated and spread out, and if space is still left, plants are brought from elsewhere and transplanted. Water should always stand in paddy fields to the depth of two inches.

13. The system observed for the plantation of Sugar-cane. The ground is ploughed and raised by earth carted to it, a flock of sheep is penned in it, manure is laid on at the rate of

twenty cart loads per acre, and after ploughing it eleven times, seed canes are planted; water is let on for eight days, and afterwards the crop is watered once in eight days. After the lapse of one and a half month the rows are formed, and a month after the sugar-cane is wrapped round in its own leaf: this process is continued as the cane grows once in every month. Thus they are wrapped round four times. This is necessary, else the canes grow thin and burst. This crop arrives at maturity in ten or eleven months.

14. The system observed in planting drupier gardens are—

The ground is ploughed and manured by laying on cow-dung, &c., and by penning a flock on it. Agasi and munaga (Indian horse radish) trees are planted, and after six months betel leaf cuttings are planted; after they come to maturity plants transplanted from other places, of three years standing, are brought and planted. Betel-nut or areca leaves are planted at eleven feet apart from each other, and cocoanuts at twenty-two feet each, both from seeds watered once in four days. After three years earth is put round the trees and manured, the ground is kept free from weeds. The areca-nut and cocoanut trees come to maturity at eight and ten years respectively. Cocoanut trees bear fruit all the year, but areca trees bear fruit only from July to November, and as the fruit is ripened it is prepared for the market by boiling.

15. The system observed in the cultivation of Raggy and Jonna :—

The ground is ploughed twice, a flock of sheep is penned on, manure is laid on at the rate of fifty bandy loads per acre, the land again then ploughed twice or thrice, smoothed over, and beds to facilitate irrigation are formed, ground is then sown after being watered either by rain or artificially. Raggy is seldom sown broad-cast, but seeds are sown thickly in a separate plot, and the plants, when months old, are transplanted in the ground prepared for their reception. They are for some time watered once in four days, and then a watering once in eight or ten days is sufficient; when the transplanted crop is a month old, the ground is weeded and smoothed over.

16. Wet lands were hitherto denominated in the accounts as garden, wet and dry converted into wet; but at the Dettacummy, or reduction of assessment in Fusly 1268, these lands were classed only under two heads, viz., wet, and dry converted into wet. The extent and assessment thereon are shewn below :—

	Acres.	Assessment.	Average.
Wet ...	89,379	3,41,006	3 13 0
Dry converted into wet ...	7,145	27,388	3 13 4
	96,524	3,68,394	3 13 1

17. Wet lands are mainly dependent for water on tanks, river channels, spring channels, and wells.

18. In the cultivation of dry converted into wet the method employed is the same as they observed in wet lands; the dry lands being, when necessary, first brought to the proper level for irrigation.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Sub-Collector.

Communicated to the Farm Committee.

No. 490.

ORDER THEREON, 28th May 1866, No. 1,263.

Land Revenue.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

W. 1263 - 4

Recorded

W. 810

J. D. S.
28. May 1966

14. To the Board of Directors
As soon as the reports
from all the districts
have been received
I hope to bring
the whole in one vol.

at one place
if any are ever
to be written from
the North
W. 810