

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1699	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	17-8	49 1868

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 403. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th June 1868, No. 4,229 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tanjore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Vallam, Tanjore Talook, 23rd May 1868, No. 119.

1. I have the honor to report on the result of the experimental cultivation of Carolina paddy in this district, during the past season.

2. According to the Board's Proceedings, marginally noted, twenty-five pounds of paddy on one occasion, and forty measures on another, were stated to have been sent to me. On actual measurement, however, the quantity received was a little less than forty measures, and this was distributed in equal portions to the Deputy Collector of Mannargudi, and the Sub-Magistrate of Trivadi, as proposed in paragraph 7 of my last report, recorded in the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th July 1867, No. 4,241.

3. In the first case, namely, that of the paddy sent to the Deputy Collector of Mannargudi, the result has been a complete failure, owing, I regret to say, to the carelessness of Kuppasami Aiyer, late Tahsildar of Mannargudi, at present Tahsildar in the Kulitalai Talook, Trichinopoly District, as also to the absence on leave of the Deputy Collector during the period it should have been carefully looked after. The extent of ground cultivated, the quantity of seed sown, and the out-turn reaped in this case, are shewn in the margin.

	Area of the plot cultivated.	Quantity of seed sown.	Out-turn.
	Acrea.	Mercals.	Mercals.
Broad-cast...	17	5	25
Transplanted	16	5	10

4. The second case, on the other hand, was on the whole, I think, a success. Anantaramiah, the Sub-Magistrate of Trivadi, took a personal interest in the matter, and has submitted an interesting report in Tamil, regarding the result of the experiment. A free translation of this report is as follows :—

“ I selected a plot of ground measuring 150 gulies, situated close to my house and Cutcherry, and belonging to the pagoda at Trivadi. Its soil is about the best procurable in this part of the district, and possessed not only good river irrigation, but has also a pond little to the north of it; there was thus no occasion to complain of any scarcity of water.

“ On the 12th of June 1867, I sowed the whole quantity of the seed in a moiety of the above piece of land, the seed having been steeped in water for two days previously. Shoots appeared on the fourth day, but it took a fortnight for them to reach one foot in height, and a month to grow to two feet six inches.

“ On the thirty-first day, I transplanted half of the seedlings in the other moiety of the plot. Some difficulty was experienced in pulling out the plants, the roots having struck deep (a span and a half) into the soil; and, though those taken out first were seriously injured, the remainder were subsequently pulled out with care and precaution, and transplanted without any great loss.

“ The plants which were not transplanted were in ear in seventy-five days, whilst those that were transplanted took ten days longer; they had also reached a height of four and a half feet in that time.

“ The ears were rich and well studded with grain, but were not as numerous as they are in the paddy of this country.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th June 1868.*

"The non-transplanted paddy was reaped on the 1st October, and the out-turn was four cullums and six mercahs.

"The harvesting of this crop was not as easy as ordinary paddy, for simple threshing was not enough to separate the grain from the stalk; but the straw had to be dried in the sun for two days, and then to be trodden down by cattle. The crop of the transplanted paddy was reaped on the 16th October. In this case, the produce amounted to eight cullums and nine mercahs. The total out-turn obtained by both the methods of cultivation was thus thirteen cullums and three mercahs.

"The result of this experiment convinces me that the system of transplanting is preferable to sowing broad-cast. If country paddy had been sown in this plot of the ground, it would have yielded twenty-two cullums and six mercahs; the out-turn of Carolina paddy has thus fallen short of that of country paddy by nine cullums. I do not, however, think that this experiment has conclusively settled what the ordinary yield of Carolina paddy may be considered to be, for I have reasons for believing that I erred a little in the mode of cultivating this plant. Persons of experience tell me that it would have been better if the seed had been sown over a larger surface, and the seedlings transplanted on the twentieth day instead of the thirtieth. I accordingly purpose making another experiment next year, and trust then to be in a position to give a decided opinion on the subject.

"I tasted the Carolina rice, and found it nicer and more wholesome than indigenous Kadappukar, though not equal to Sumba and Serumani rice. I cannot now say how far the natives will like this as an article of food, since I had not enough to allow of many persons tasting it; but if the whole quantity now in hand is cultivated next year, the out-turn will be about four hundred cullums, and we shall thus be in a position to get a number of persons to give an opinion on it.

"Some speak favorably of this paddy on account of the luxuriant growth of the stalks and the richness of the ears; whilst others think that the difficulty experienced in transplanting and harvesting it will always be an obstacle to its coming generally into favor."

5. From the above report it appears that there is still some doubt whether the Carolina paddy is so well adapted to this country as the better indigenous kinds, such as Sumba and Serumani. With the quantity, however, now in hand, I purpose making another experiment on a larger scale this year, and will, in due course, report the result.

Submitted for the information of Government.

No. 404.

ORDER THEREON, 17th June 1868, No. 1,699.

Miscellaneous.

The Collector will convey the thanks of Government to the Sub-Magistrate of Trivadi for the attention that he paid to the experiment.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Farm Committee.
" the Agri-Horticultural Society.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Tanjore.

Exd. J. Wright.

20th 1899

The Collector will convey the thanks of Government to the Sub-Magistrate of Trivadi for the attention that he paid to the experiment.

*Reported to English
20th Oct 1868
M.H.*

20th June 1868

By the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Rev. 1868. Department
No. 2061.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 8th June 1868.

*Despatched
Rev. 1868*

No. 4,229.

Submitting for information letter from Collector of Tanjore reporting result of experimental cultivation of Carolina paddy in his District.

20th 1899-17 June