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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.

497

Press-

B.P. No.

Mis.

Dated

24. 4. 1966

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 186. Read the following letter from Surgeon-Major G. BIDIE, M.B., Superintendent Government Central Museum, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 11th April 1874, No. 46:—

With reference to paragraph 2 of Government Order, No. 358, of 17th March, I have the honour to report that I have carefully examined the samples of injured rice and the insects sent to me by the Collector of South Arcot.

2. The rice is completely destroyed, nothing being left but the husk, and I have not succeeded in finding in either of these two samples sent to me a single sound grain. On close examination, each grain is found perforated with a small hole, being the opening by which the insect finally escaped.

3. In the first batch of insects received there were two kinds—one a true weevil (*Calandra*) and the other a species of *Tomicus* which belongs to a nearly allied family. The weevils are all extremely destructive to agricultural produce, and prodigiously prolific. One, the *Corn weevil*, is very common in English granaries, and often proves very destructive. Various methods have been adopted for its destruction, such as heating the wheat up to 130° or 140° Fahrenheit,—a temperature fatal to the insect; but the most effectual preservatives are frequent shifting and turning of the grain and free ventilation.

4. The second batch of insects received consisted entirely of *Tomicus*,—a fact that rather surprised me, as most of the family to which it belongs live in the bark and wood of trees, proving at times most destructive to growing timber. This insect is also very prolific. Latreille says that one female will deposit from sixty to eighty eggs.

5. In both cases, the female lays a single egg in each grain, and the larva when hatched works into the interior, and eats up every particle of the farinaceous contents. The perfect insects of both species are extremely small, being about the size of a pin-head.

6. The only preventive and remedial measures that I can suggest are that if the store-houses are old, they should either be abandoned or cleared out. If the latter alternative be adopted, they should be left empty for some months, thoroughly cleaned, and leaped or white-washed. In case of a batch of grain being infested by the insects, I would recommend its exposure for some days to the sun and frequent turning while thus exposed.

7. I also found in one sample of the grain six or eight specimens of a small moth, *Tinea*. The presence of all these insects is indicative of old, dirty, and badly-ventilated godowns.

No. 187.

ORDER THEREON, 24th April 1874, No. 497.

Miscellaneous.

This report will be communicated, through the Board of Revenue, to the Collector of South Arcot. Mr. Garstin

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th April 1874*

will recommend to the notice of merchants the simple remedial measures suggested in paragraph 6.

(*Extract.*)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ Surgeon-Major G. Bidie, M.B.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

3/1897



N^o 46.

Government C. Museum
Madras 11th April 1874

From,

Surgeon Major G. Bidie M. B.
Supt^d Government Central Museum

To

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

Sir,

With reference to para 2 of
Government Order N^o 358 of 17th March
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samples of injured rice and the
insects sent to me by the Collector
of South Arcot.

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the husk, and I have not
succeeded

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

do. do. do.

Dated April 24th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 24th April 1874, No. 497

APRIL.

Nos. 186-187.

*Rice-destroying Insects—Communicates,
through Revenue Board, to Collector of South
Arcot Dr. Bidie report on certain —, and directs
the Collector to recommend to the merchants
the simple remedial measures suggested in
paragraph 6.*

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of all these insects is indicative
of old, dirty and badly ventilated
godowns.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedt Servant,

Hedee M.D. Surgeon Major,
Supt. Government H. Museum

No. 497

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 24th April 1874.

Read the following letter from the
Superintendent Government Central
Museum.

Reporting on the Rice destroy-
ing insects from South Arcot,
in reply to Government Order
N^o 358 of 17th March 1874.

H. E. 11 April 1874 N^o 116.

This report will
be communicated, through
the Board of Revenue, to
the collector of South Arcot.
Mr. Garstin will recommend to
the notice of merchants the
simple remedial measures
suggested in paragraph b.

C. W.

14 To the Secy. Rev des 1^{re} May 74
1 - by the major J. B. B. m. 11

17 March 74 No 168-169.

Rev. 1874 Sept.

Government & Museum.

N^o 26

N^o 1181.

Superintendent Government

South Arcot C. Museum

To

The Secretary to Government

Revenue Department

Dated 11th April 1874

Report on the Rice

destroying insects

from South Arcot

in reply to Government

Order No 358 of 17th March 74

S. O. No 497-24 April 74.

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C 222 April 74 Rev

186-187
No. 10.
The detouring society

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