

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	739	Press ~~Mis~~
	481-482	
Dated	29-3-1867.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 481. Read the following letter from the Acting Resident in Travancore and Cochin, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Trevandrum, 20th March 1867, No. 11 :—

1. With reference to this office letter No. 39, dated 20th June last, I have now the honor to forward copies of the reports of the Dewans of Travancore* and Cochin,† regarding the result of the experimental cultivation of the Carolina paddy in Travancore and Cochin.

2. The reports shew that though many failures have occurred, yet, in some instances, great success has been obtained, and, on the whole, the result has been to leave an amount of seed more than double the quantity received.

3. The result of the cultivation of this acclimatized seed will be duly reported.

From the Dewan of Travancore, to the British Resident of Travancore, dated Trevandrum, 15th December 1866, No. 4,840-M 1,272.

No. 1,702, dated 22nd October 1866.
„ 1,840, „ 27th November „

1. As requested in your letters noted in the margin, I have the honor to report the result of the experimental cultivation in this country of the Carolina paddy received from the Government of Madras.

2. The experiment was tried in the Quilon and Trevandrum divisions by twenty-six individuals, of whom nine reaped a harvest in greater or less abundance. An equal number failed in the attempt, and the remaining eight have not yet gathered the produce, having reserved the seed for the later or September season.

3. The maximum yield was thirty-two-fold, the minimum two-fold, and the average in the nine successful instances nine-fold. The higher yield was produced in the Quilon division, where the average is nearly thirteen-fold, while in the Trevandrum division it was only four-fold. The soil in the former is much better adapted to the growth, even of country paddy, than that of the Trevandrum division, where the supply of water is more limited. It must be remembered that in all the successful cases now reported upon, the seed was sown in the earlier season of the year, when there is no transplanting, and the yield is generally inferior to that of the later season.

4. The average duration of the crop was about 100 days.

5. The soil in which the best crops were raised was a mixture of clay and sand. Where the seed was sown in purely clayey soil, the plants are reported not to have attained maturity.

6. The manure used was cowdung, ashes, and decayed leaves.

7. The instructions for cultivation, which you were good enough to forward to me, did not arrive in time to be of any service this season.

8. From the result of the experiment, we may, I think, safely conclude that the soil of Travancore, especially in the Northern Districts, is well adapted to the growth of the new species, the grains of which are decidedly superior in quality to the common produce of the country. With care and instruction as to the mode of growing the Carolina paddy, we may expect to achieve better results.

9. I have collected most of the produce of the last crop of the new paddy, and will distribute this again to see what yield the acclimatized grain would produce.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th March 1867.*

From the Dewan of Cochin, to the British Resident of Travancore and Cochin, dated Ernacollum, in Cochin, 19th December 1866, No. 872.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, Nos. 860, 1,703, and 1,841, dated respectively the 21st May and 22nd October last, and 27th ultimo.
2. On the receipt of the 30 lbs. of Carolina paddy seed, therein referred to, I forwarded 6 lbs. of seed to Mr. Kohlhoff, and 4 lbs. to each of the Tahsildars of the Cannanore, Trichoor, Tallapilly, and Chittoor districts.
3. The reports of these officers in regard to the seed in question having been received, I have the honor to communicate to you the purport of them.
4. Mr. Kohlhoff states that, reserving for a trial in his own compound at Trichoor half a lb. of seed, the rest he distributed to four natives.
5. In regard to the trial in his own compound, he states that on the 15th June last, he sowed twelve seeds in a spot of ground previously manured and prepared for their reception; that on the fifth day after sowing sprouts appeared, and that after four months and seven days from the time of sowing, the plants had attained to a height of about four feet, and that the crop, exclusive of pudden, (which is more husk) was half a pound; that from each plant there were shoots from fifteen to nineteen in number.
6. Mr. Kohlhoff is of opinion that for this kind of paddy high lands are better than low lands, and that the best time for sowing is the latter end of May, or about the commencement of the south-west monsoon. He suggests, however, that trials be made in other seasons also.
7. In regard to the seeds sown by the four natives, to whom Mr. Kohlhoff distributed them, he states that the result has not been very favorable. Seeds were sown by these natives in the Trichoor, Moogondapooram, and Chittoor districts, during June and July last, and sprouted nicely and grew well for a time, but afterwards they withered, with the exception of a few, which at last yielded only three-eighths of a pound, assumed, from the attacks of an insect named Chayee, a yellowish colour and withered away.
8. The Cannanore Tahsildar states that the 4 lbs. of seed received by him were sown in two villages; that they were sown on the 27th June, and reaped on the 20th October last, and produced 10 lbs. of good grain and 11½ lbs. of light paddy; and that he attributes the large quantity of light paddy to the want of rain at the time it was required.
9. The Trichoor Tahsildar states that 4 lbs. of seed were sown in Trichoor on the 6th June; that they sprouted on the fourth day, that the plants grew to about three feet high, and that though they suffered much from the attacks of insects, they yielded 11½ lbs. of grain.
10. The Tallapilly Tahsildar states that 4 lbs. of seed were sown in a field in his district on the 17th June last; that they sprouted on the fourth day, that the plants attained a height of two feet, and yielded on the 14th October last 14 lbs. of grain. The Tahsildar is of opinion that his district is adapted for the cultivation of this kind of paddy, and recommends further trials.
11. The Chittoor Tahsildar states that he divided the 4 lbs. of seed received by him equally between two persons; that one of them states that the seeds sown by him sprouted on the seventh day after sowing, attained the height of four feet, and yielded, on the 28th day after they were sown, 20 lbs. of paddy; that the other, however, states that the paddy from the seed given to him has not yet been reaped.
12. The whole quantity of paddy derived from the seeds sown in the several above-mentioned localities is 35 lbs., which shall be taken care of for future experiments.
13. The Carolina paddy being quite new to the inhabitants of this country, they are not able at once to speak positively as to the soil best adapted for its cultivation or the season most favorable for the same, but a few more experiments will enable them to ascertain these points.
14. However from the reports received, it would appear that high lands are better than low lands for its cultivation, and that of all the districts in which experiments have been made the soil of the Chittoor district is the best.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th March 1867.*

No. 482.

ORDER THEREON, 29th March 1867, No. 739.

Miscellaneous.

1. Ordered to be communicated to the Revenue Board, the Sydapet Farm Committee, and the Agri-Horticultural Society.
2. The Government are indebted to the Dewans for these reports, and will look with interest for those of further trials.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

„ the Farm Committee.

„ the Agri-Horticultural Society.

„ The British Resident Travancore and Cochin.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

92-739

Presented by
Committee of the Hort. Soc. to
the Hawaiian Committee
of the Hort. Soc.

The Soc. are indebted
to the donors for these reports.
We look to the future
for more of such materials.

W. H. P.

N.

29th March
1867

14 Copies to the P. of Peace Dec. 29th
6 to the Hawaiian Committee
1 to the Hort. Soc.
1 to the President of the Hawaiian Soc.

Reported to England
D/23rd May N^o 32 of 1867
Ellis

Recd:
Govt of Madras
No. 787.
The Acting Resident in
Travancore & Cochin
The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort. St. George
Dated 20th March 1867.
Received 26th

N^o 11.

Enclosures X
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N^o

Forwarding copies of the
Reports of the Dewan of
Travancore & Cochin regarding
the result of the experimental
cultivation of the Carolina
Paddy in Travancore and
Cochin.

No 789. 29 March

N^o 481 & 482