

Toward the end of the month, all classes were reviewing the work of the first semester, in preparation for mid-year examinations which will be held from October 6 to 10. A 54-page summary entitled "Cultivos Importantes y Cultivos Nuevos" was prepared for the use of the second year class; it is our hope that this can be revised and improved for next year, then issued in printed form for the use of this and possibly other schools. We have already prepared similar outlines in multigraphed form, which are being used by the classes in animal husbandry. Such outlines are essential here because there are so few published texts which are based on Central American conditions.

During this month, we began to reap direct benefits from our hog raising program. Up to now, we have distributed about 100 purebred Hampshire pigs for breeding purposes, which meant that we had very few left for meat. We have now come to the point where we can produce all the pork we need; 5 large hogs were butchered during the month for consumption in the Mess Hall, and 850 lbs of ham and bacon were cured, from thirteen 7-month old pigs killed the previous month. We expect to kill two or three pigs weekly from now on, which will supply all the lard and pork necessary for the Mess Hall.

We now have 20 half-breed young cows milking; they are producing about one third more milk than their "criolla" mothers. Our new incubator continues to be kept in full production with benefit to the poultry department as a whole.

At the end of the month the big event in the livestock department was the filling of two silos - the old one, and a new one just completed. All second and third year students were occupied on this job several days. The old silo was filled mainly with corn, and the new one entirely with sweet sorghum. Our plantings of the latter gave us extremely high yields even by United States standards. We are, in fact, becoming keenly interested in the possibilities of the sorghums for this part of the world. The collection of sorghum varieties received this year from the Texas Experiment Station is now maturing and will provide some interesting results.

In the field crops department, we commenced to harvest a fine crop of sweet potatoes. Our rice fields promise well: they should be ready for harvesting in November. Venezuela No. 1 corn promises a fine crop. New land was broken in Potrero del Medio, which we are planting in pigeon peas, in preparation for use in various crops next year. On this job we used our new Davis Light Disk Plow for the first time, with excellent results.

In the horticultural department, Hector Murga resigned to return to his native country, Guatemala, where he was offered an excellent position in the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura. Earlier in the month we were joined by Donald Fiester, who has recently completed his training at California Polytechnic Institute. He is devoting much time to development of our nurseries, which are in fine condition and are proving highly popular with the students. Budding of Citrus has been going on during the month. Mr. Fiester has reorganised the propagating shed and seedbed work, and is giving attention to spraying and other field activities in this department. The vegetable garden is at the usual seasonal

low, due to the rains; but we have had abundant supplies of staples such as cabbage, lettuce, green peppers, okra, beets, carrots and radishes. Our rather extensive plots of Dolichos lablab, planted primarily for green manure, are coming into blossom and we will shortly have the green pods for table use - we find them excellent.

Several new varieties of pigeon peas were received from Hawaii. From the Centro Nacional de Agronomía in El Salvador we received seeds of Early Hegari sorghum, which is said to produce a crop in 9 weeks in that country. Our grape collection was pruned. Visitors from the States have expressed surprise at our avocado nursery. Seeds were planted in the open ground exactly one year ago; the seedlings were budded in February, and the budded trees are now six feet high.

There were relatively few visitors during the month, but some very interesting ones. Mr. Soyland of the Boston office, United Fruit Co., was here on the 7th and 8th. Professor J.B. Francioni of Louisiana State University, accompanied by Mrs. Francioni, came on the tenth for a stay on two days; just before his departure, he demonstrated to the third year students the proper way to cut up a hind quarter of beef for the retail trade - altogether one of the most interesting things we have ever seen here, because of the skill with which he worked and his running comments as he went along. About the middle of the month, two more teachers from the Instituto Nacional de Agricultura at Divisa, Panamá, came for a brief stay; this makes six who have been here to date, and we understand several more are still to come. On the 24th and 25th we had with us Dr. J. J. Ochse, who for 32 years conducted horticultural investigations in Java for the Dutch government, and is widely known for his publications on Asiatic fruits and vegetables. Dr. Ochse, who is now on the staff of the University of Miami (Florida) told us many interesting things about horticulture in tropical Asia, and demonstrated a method of grafting mangos, citrus, and other fruits which we shall try here.

Dr. Warren Weaver, Director of the Division of Natural Sciences, the Rockefeller Foundation, and Dr. Harry M. Miller Jr., Associate Director, arrived on the 29th for a stay of three days. We were greatly interested in discussing with them some of the agricultural problems of tropical America, especially in the field of education, and found their stay profitable in many ways. Mr. Ernest H. Casseres, Olericulturist of the Instituto Interamericano de Ciencias Agrícolas, came at the same time, and discussed many horticultural problems with Prof. Villegas and Mr. Fiester.

During the month Mr. Paul Shank went to Costa Rica and made an overland trip from Buenos Aires, Costa Rica to Almirante, Panamá with Mrs. Doris Stone through the interesting Indian country of southern Costa Rica and northern Panamá. Dr. and Mrs. Louis Williams left for vacation in the United States on the 30th of August and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Dunn returned from vacation in the United States on September 20th.

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