



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA
TEGUCIGALPA HONDURAS

MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

OCTOBER 1952. Final examinations of the first semester took place during the third week of this month. It was necessary to drop from the rolls one second-year student. As usual, a considerable number of first year students failed in two or three subjects but will be given the rest of the year to show whether or not they can improve their grades sufficiently to pass into the second year class. The different educational standards which prevail in the numerous countries from which our students come, and the fact that some of these students have only been through primary school while others have had one to five years of secondary education, makes it incumbent upon us to pay more attention to inherent ability than to the educational level previously attained.

It may be interesting to mention that at the end of the month there were 166 students on the rolls originating as follows: Colombia 17, Costa Rica 20, Cuba 6, Ecuador 9, Guatemala 18, Honduras 40, Nicaragua 18, Mexico 1, Panama 7, Republica Dominicana 8, and El Salvador 22.

The two silos near the dairy barn were filled with sweet sorghum and pigeon pea tops. Milk production during the month averaged 20 lbs per cow per day. First-year students commenced to bud-graft roses and avocados in the extensive nurseries which were established earlier in the year. There was a fair crop of oranges, but not a single fruit turned yellow. When asked by a recent visitor the cause of this, the reply was "There were 166 causes." "And what were some of them?" was the rejoinder. "Well, some were Guatemalan, some were Honduran, some were Nicaraguan, and so on." Having exhausted the oranges, the boys have started to work on the grapefruit - a last resort so far as they are concerned, for they are not fond of acid fruits.

The Director returned at the middle of the month from a trip to Europe, where he went as delegate of the Republic of Honduras to the 13th International Horticultural Congress which was held in London during the first part of September. Advantage was taken of the opportunity to establish closer relations with several institutions in England and on the Continent. It is hoped that these may prove mutually beneficial in the future, along lines of exchange of plant material and information. Among these institutions in England are the Royal Horticultural Society; the Colonial Office; and Plant Protection Ltd. (whose Research Station at Fernhurst, Surrey is without doubt one of the most interesting institutions of its sort in existence); and in France the Institut des Fruits et Agrumes Coloniaux at Paris. Several weeks were spent visiting regions of horticultural interest in southern Spain.

We have received a letter from a member of the Class of 1951. This young man was primarily interested in animal husbandry. He went to El Salvador, where he promptly got a job at \$1.00 per month. Now, a year and a half later, he is working for the government as an extension agent among livestock men, at a salary of \$2.00 per month.

There were not very many overnight visitors during October. Dr Jaime Guiscafre-Arrillaga, Director of the Centro Nacional de Agronomia of El Salvador, was here for several days around the 27th. He gave our students an excellent and very practical lecture on the cultivation of coffee.