

EL FELAHA

(Farming — Cairo)

Vol. 37 No. 2

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Synopsis of Main Articles

THE SOCIAL & ECONOMICAL CONSEQUENCES OF AGRICULTURAL REFORM IN EGYPT

by M. Most. Ah. Aly.

The history of land ownership since the reign of Moh. Aly was shortly reviewed. When the revolution started, the agricultural land was mainly in the possession of big land - owners (84 % of the land - owners possessed nomore than 21 % of the total area). Land-ownership was considered to be the best investment for capital ; and this handicapped progress in other directions, badly needed to cope with the rapid increase in population, which cannot be met by a proportionate increase in cultivable land area. In the meantime, the working class of farmers was in a miserable position, as 81 % of those engaged in agriculture received nomore than 4 % of the total revenue of agriculture (an average of L.E. 20 per head a year). The law on agricultural reform gradually remedies these defects. In the application of this law, various steps to advance agriculture in general were kept in view, such as land reclamation, progress in animal husbandry and raising the standard of living for small farmers.

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FETILITY AND PRODUCTION IN POULTRY.

by Ossama Aref Awa. Animal Husbandry Lecturer.

Secondary Agricultural Schools, Damascus.

A general discussion of the various factors related to be number of eggs that a hen lays such as nutrition, climate, light and broodiness. Artificial fertilization is recommended to increase the fertility of the eggs laid.

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PRUNING OF STONE FRUITS.

by **Fathy El Sunbati.**

Agricultural Engineer, Municipality of Zagazig.

A general advice as to how and when pruning of stone-fruits should be made for breeding, fruiting and remedial purpose.

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THE EGYPTIAN HONEYBEE AND MODERN BEEKEEPING.

by **M. H. Hassanein and M. El Banby.**

Faculty of Agriculture, Ain Shams University.

The biometry of the Egyptian honeybee, when bred in movable frame hives was recorded in the present study :

- 1) The newly emerging worker weighs 89 mg and the field worker weighs 52 mg when gathering nectar and 59 mg when collecting pollen. The length of the tongue is 5.75 m.m. and the length of the basitarsus is 2.03 and the total length of the fore wing is 8.46 m.m.
- 2) The newly emerging drone weighs 209.5 mg, the virgin queen when newly emerged weighs 123 mg and her ovaries are composed of 192 ovarioles.

The worker castes spends 19.4 days, the drone 24.5 days and the queen 15.5 days since egg laying till emergence.

The worker brood rearing curves showed three peaks in the flowering periods of the three main crops in the district, clover, cotton and maize.

The drones and queen cells were produced abundantly in the clover season. The maximum queen cells and cell cups found in a colony at one time was 145 queen cells and 64 cell cups. The results obtained clearly show the swarming instinct of the Egyptian honeybee.