

EL FELAHA

(Farming — Cairo)

Vol. 36 No. 1

Jan. - Feb. 1956

Synopsis of Main Articles

FARMERS' SHARES IN RETAIL PRICES OF SOME AGRICULTURAL FOOD COMMODITIES.

By

S.E. SHEHATA (Ph.D.), Lecturer, Dept. of Agr. Econ., College of Agr., Ain Shams University.

The distribution of the consumer's pound paid for food items reveals the nature and the extent of the returns to producers for such items. This study was carried out to estimate the farmers' shares in retail prices of 20 food items in order that the marketing of these products could further be improved.

Producers, middlemen and consumers, taken at random, were interviewed and retail prices of both retailers and pedlars were observed in a Heliopolis district for one week during July 1955. Despite the presence of certain limitations, it became evident that measures need to be taken to remedy several shortcomings in the marketing of our farm products.

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INSECTICIDES FROM PLANTS

(Plant derivatives)

BY

Dr. M. H. Hassanein. Faculty of Agriculture . Ein Shams University.

The cultivation of various plant insecticides succeeded in Egypt. The most important insecticides of plant or origin are : Nicotine, pyrethrin, rotenone, hellebore and sabidilla.

They are highly effective against insects and nontoxic to mammals and plants.

A general survey of these insecticides & their prospects is given.

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THE EFFECT OF MINERAL DEFECIENCIES ON THE GROWTH AND YIELD OF SOME IMPORTANT CROP PLANTS

Dr. M. Bakr Ahmed. Faculty of Agriculture. Cairo University

Broad beans, Edible peas, Egyptian clover, wheat, barley and tomato plants were grown either in sand or water culture under controlled conditions. Certain crop plants exhibited distinct visual symptoms of certain deficiencies accompanied with low yields, while others did not show any deficiency symptoms, but growth was comparatively restricted and yields were reduced.

Foliar spray with solutions of compounds of trace elements at early stages of growth of wheat plants grown in sand soil gave promising results, and the yield of grains was increased by 21% in treated plants.

Rapid chemical tests for the presence of certain essential elements in tissues of the treated plants as a supplementary aid for the diagnosis of mineral deficiencies has proved to be invaluable for use.

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THE RATE OF EFFECT OF CALCIUM AND MAGNESIUM IONS ON PHOSPHATE FIXATION IN SOILS.

Dr. Amin, A. Abdel - Bar

Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University.

The investigation shows that the fixation capacity of phosphates increases sharply with the increase of either calcium or magnesium ions in the medium. This effect was much greater at low concentrations of Ca and Mg solutions than at high concentrations. It was shown too that the rate of uptake of phosphate by plants from fixed Ca - phosphate was greater than from fixed Mg - phosphate, (2.1—11.9% with Ca-phosphate against 1.6—8.4% with Mg-phosphate). These results coincide greatly with Truog's investigations on corn, barley and clover grown in quartz cultures.

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Preliminary Studies on Onions (Allium Capa L.)

Dr. Warid A. Warid Lecturer, Agricultural College, Kahera University.

The photoperiod requirements of common varieties were studied; and showed that the last five weeks in the life of the plant are most important in connection with yield. Planting in ridges gave better results than the common bed practice. Direct seeding proved superior to the transplanting method. Low temperature prevailing increased annual bolters. Dormancy period & storage of vars were investigated. Onion pests were reviewed.