

AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Minutes of February 14, 1978

Secretary: tl

Analysts present: Jim Morral, Russel Moton, Jan Wilsey, Jack Barron, Gene Chaikin, James Simpson, Philip Blakey, Guy Mitchell and Rob Gieg.

Chairperson for the meeting: Jack Barron

Followup:

Insecticide barrel--Tommy repaired and sealed the banana oil barrel.

Dogs to fields: Jans crew took some dogs to fields; Learning is taking one or two; Chaikin has adopted a dog and giving it time. Others still need to give more attention..

Map Numbering Fields: Started at analysts meeting Sunday night. Initial work is done.

Grenadilla vs
Pumpkin

Jack says the nutrients in pulp are approximately the SAME.. and seeds in both can be eaten. Pumpkin seeds are perhaps a little more valuable, being approximately 50% oil and 30% protein, and being a strong deterrent to certain parasites, according to Dr. Schacht. We have enough land so are planting both. The seeds of grenadilla have a few more uses.

Project-wood

H.S. is to start a project searching for wood we can use in our sawmill operations.

Livestock

Jim Morrel reported: pushing the well, we are in a time of long dry and this is important to the stock. Jan's crew getting the poles; 100 along road and they have more in the bush. Have enough for what is scheduled. Must dig well deeper, also.

Chickenry

37 died out of 584; they had broken tongues from being pipped and starved to death. JJ said no more pipping.

Dr Fernans said if using commercial feed, use only the egg ration, it contains shell and all needed. 18 mo is end of prime laying age; chickens start laying at 6 mo; after 12 mo of laying, they are past their prime. Should go in pot then.

Need more air circulation in pens; slight modifications will accomplish this. Need to build up a supply of layers. Can purchase layer chicks; roosters are tearing up the hens-remove some of them. 90 hens and 75 babes; not been sexed yet. Rob plans to divide pens to upper and lower. Have broilers for sale every 3 weeks with no additional pens..

Not counting the pullets, we have total of 395 hens and 46 roosters. The pullets are hens that have not yet begun laying. Of the pullets, we have 90 that are sexed, and additional 75 chicks that we have not yet sexed.

Again, by dividing each pen in half, and then each side into an upper and lower cage, we could use this for incoming chicks; we would have broilers for

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This would leave one pen for storage and a work shop. Also, this is leaving coups #1, 2, 3 and 4 for our own laying hens. The framework would be built out of poles; we would need chicken wire and a small amount of lumber for flooring in the small second-level cages. ON S. TURDAY, I WILL HAVE A COST ESTIMATION PREPARED.

This week we screened in the isolation coups and built a partition in coup #1 to separate the Jonestown chicks from the pullets because they were not able to get to the feed and water.

We screened the chickens away from rodents this week and separated out the very young ones. Egg production was down today, partially due to pipping.

Dr. Fernans said his Dad has a chicken farm; they don't pip. they have great success. PIPS ARE A DEFICIENCY, AND DR. FERNANS WILL RESEARCH IT FOR US.

Egg count: 12th 239
13th 176
14th 228 643 usually get this much in 2 days.

Larry commented Fernans said pip is amino acid deficiency re the corn; will research it.

Marshall Farris asked about the molting season..

Our chicks are hybrids; 9 weeks are ready for market. Mixture of 4 different kinds, bred for production & fast growth.

Sm Animals

Chris said have now spaed 8 dogs; 2 more by the vet that came out. Had a litter of 3 bunnies. Hated another rabbit yesterday; has 28-30 day cycle.

Russell

Doing soil analysis of newly cleared fields this week. Becky Flowers is working with me, and has made helpful suggestions already.

Guest told us to contact another since Mon Rapo didn't have the pertinent information, will be contacting them.

Dr. Fernana said in order to make decision on cutlass bean protein, we needed to find out the amino acid content which Mon Rapo cannot do; will have to get it done in Trinidad.

Insecticides

Earnesting reported Dr. Fernans said dry is ideal time to fight flies; in China they keep at it and break the cycle of maggots. Wny wet places should be watched.

2/12 Marie Rankin sprayed around 15 houses; in windrow for mosquitos and also sprayed for maggots. Sprayed toilets for flies.

Bob Davis sprayed all the peanuts for Jack Barron, 5 tanks. Cannot give price because have not received it from Georgetown.

Field & Rice

12th All Crews I, II, III and IV plus learnin' c ew cutting second growth down behind chicken house.

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ing & Lives
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13th All crews I, II, III and IV
Completed cutting the 10 acres of 2nd growth
behind chicken houses in the 1st 3 hrs of day.
Helped with maintenance around piggery; helped with
digging of well; cut poles for well in the bush,
going out to the head of road; about 70 poles cut.

14th All Crews I, II, III and IV
Helping with the maintenance at piggery;
Cut poles for well in the bush going out to head
of the road. total 100 poles plus, carried poles
out of bush to path. The poles weigh 150# or more.

Sr Garden Report

Dorm 4 is growing: black eyed peas; cutlass beans;
pumpkins; corn; 7 banana trees; and sweet potatoes,
by Leola Horthead.

Dorm 5, by Vallerstean Jones: 6 rows of cutlass beans;
13 rows cutlass beans; 11 rows cutlass beans (30 total).
3 rows peanuts by Frances Stevenson

1 row pumpkin, Lucy Miller
1 row collards; 1 row garlic; 12 rows okra; 3 rows
peas; 2 rows of corn by Lula Ruben; 14 black eyed
peas; 2 rows collards; 1 garlic & onions; 8 pineapple;
7 banana trees; 10 rows sweet potatoes; 3 pineapple;
1 row of beans; 3 banana trees; --Artie Harper.
Amanda Fair & Claude Goodspeed: Dorm 3

have 4 rows bora beans; 3 rows sw potatoes; 2 rows
peanuts; 4 hills pumpkins; 1 row onions; 8 banana
trees;

By Hazel Hown and Earlene Watkins: 9 rows cutlass
beans; 5 rows squash; 5 rows pumpkin; 5 rows okra;
4 rows black eyed peas; 1 row of onions.

Mary Bailey: 1 row of edoes;

Helen Snell and Dorm 2

has 4 rows corn; peanuts between corn and okra.

Gladys Jackson: 2 rows peanuts, 1 row okra,
2 rows brown beans Dorm 2.

Louella Brown, dorm 2

Pineapple, 12 banana trees; 2 rows collards; 4 rows gar
garlic; 2 rows beans; 3 rows tomatoes; 6 bayberry
tree..

Ruth Atkins C-7: 8 rows pumpkin, 4 rows edoes,

Geneva Beal: 2 rows corn, cutlass beans, 15 rows of
corn, black eyed peas between corn, 5 rows pinto
beans, 1 row of white beans.

Garden crew

Picked 257# greens; 149# radishes, 20# okra, 5# celery.
Weeded 475 feet in west garden

Watered daily

picked also

~~257#~~ 201# squash, 40# bora beans.

Planted 1 1/3 row shallots 175' long;

replanted 18 beds watermelon, replanted 10 beds
pumpkin; replanted 4 rows radishes 275'; 1 row
tropical vegetable 175 ft.

Helped Laura's crew in Cutlass bean field. Some of
garden crew helped clean fish. Weeded 475 ft in West
garden; set out stakes on 2 pumpkin rows 550 ft long.

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Citrus & Nursery-Becky Flowers

Water wing beans and citrus trees in cottage area; Bait 2 acoushi ant nests; maintenance work in the sawmill citrus trees; stake trees in section 7 along the road; burn wood in new planting area; help with watering the garden; completed section 8 spraying, cultivating and fertilizing.

Maintenance in nursery; bagged 45 fruit trees; planted 5 trays of fruit trees seeds.

Made 1 ton of potting soil.

Gene located some trees that can be used for lumber in our construction.

Bananas

Lee asked if we are getting enough planting material? Had heard we are not. Danny said 193 suckers addition -al in the propagation field; 1 field has 100 suckers; 2 smaller fields of Cayenne with 35 each and mixed with Plantain; fig and dwarf.

Gene is concerned with priorities of crew. In propagation field, about 330, will increase 2 to 1. so whole only increases 1 1/2 acres per year. Not big production: 400 trees = 660 production so just over 1 1/2 acres per year.

Gene suggested system of taking the prime stalk, the med. and follower -- 3 in all, a common system. Otherwise a lot of stake to be put up as weakens the plant structure and pulls down in wind. Could pull suckers from bigger Cayenne field. Gene estimates that in 1 banana field above the garden we have in excess of 1000 suckers currently. Gene advises to cut them out and plant them as soon as possible. Would rather see us use our own material rather than bring in any disease from the fields downriver.

Danny says 2-3 suckers a year; reaped 3-4 times he knows of on some trees. Don also thinks production more than 2-3 times a year.

Gene said field of propagation should be expanded.

Dan: Do we have enuf Cayenne suckers right now?! Considering to plant whole thing or split corm?

Jeff said 20 per year..must cut back central stock at least once a ~~year~~ week.

* MARKETTING INFORMATION NEEDED. Patty said private buyers do not buy bananas..govt is only one outside Georgetown that buys them. CHECK WITH GUYANA MARKETING CORPORATION (JOL LAMBERT) RE THIS AND SELL TO GOVERNMENT OR GEORGETOWN OURSELVES.

* Danny is to meet with Jeff re the "ringing" of the suckers.

Inventory

JAN ASKED FOR AN INVENTORY OF THE CAYENNE ON WHOLE FARM. How long since he has done it? --never-- and when will it be done? --said Saturday next meeting.

Jeff mentioned Lokaton Cayenne, disease resistant and high yield --an East Indian guy had it and offered to us.. had to leave. Working with chickens at time

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Man is in B. A. I.
Gene declared not worried about disease if within 20 mi from Kaituma, but concerned beyond that. Pomoroon is where large plantations are--much disease. Not mind going to Aracaca for planting material.

Theresa mentioned that in large commercial farms they kill suckers; their bunches are 50-100#; Dan said total # pounds on pruned trees is very slight margin--ultimately nearly same # of pounds per year.

Gene: lets split them up as fast as we can to have more that way..JAN suggested trying different way than propping. Danny said he still has to get with Charlie and get the wire ordered.

DR. FERNANS SAID WE ARE THE FULLEST SOCIALIST COMMUNITY IN THE WORLD. THOUGHT WE WOULD HAVE TO USE STRONGER METHODS..SURPRISED TO BE WITHOUT VIOLENCE...

Grubbs Rehabil proj- Charlie said located wood can be used at old sawmill site. JJ said priority! Must rehabilitate them.

Plantain

Ellem commented we should grow more plantain now that we have learned to make the flour; we can be more self sufficient and less dependent on wheat flour.

Danny said a lot of plantain --have over 750 trees now that will be ready around summer.

Gene said in windrows, old state farm used to have some; go to Ramhiryan and ask to take out the plantain. MAKE IT PRIORITY NEXT ONE GOING TO TOWN.. Russell do.

Darrell: a stove and grill was proposed: see attached special report on this.

GENE SUGGESTED skillets used in oven like we bake our bread; It was said we could use cast iron to make a grill--if someone would procure some cast iron then would not have the warping. Tom said could construct veins in bottom of skillet and increase heat conduction.

Charlie said that grill plate is special non-porous and very smooth, normal steel might not work as grill plate. Many are now made of stainless steel. Tom said stainless won't work--no way of bonding 2 together. Earnestine is in favor of cast iron.

Anita: Were sugar plantations in Georgetown; see if can get castiron utensil from old plantation; cast iron factory in gtn. Make special order. See what can be found in this area.
REV. It is called grill because it is non-porous. Grill steel should be used.

WINDMILL-

see attached report. JJ said if there is merit to the proposal, it should be done. Was referred to Steering committee.

Jack Barron Rpt

Peanut and surrell-I put on bucket of tsp for peanuts; no tractor or trailer service has kept us away from the peanuts and sorrel. We have some

BB-1-11-5

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Peanuts & Sorrel sorrel plants 1 foot high waiting for some good rain to transplant. Peanuts were sprayed --25 gallons.

Brick We have 14 bricks formed for drying. The 5 bricks which came out of the fire this morning were of good quality. The good quality were made with 100% clay. One all white and one 50% white and 50% red clay. These two types will be used for immediate production. A 300# test was made on the 100% white clay brick.

Must slow the preliminary drying process. Pat Grunnet advised as to how they did it where she was in Africa.

Jak said takes about 2 weeks; dry 7 days; heat up 7 days and cool off 7 days. Jeff said the white Kalamite mine in Brazil is big \$\$ in Brazil. Might be worth mining as it is source of industrial income.

Firebrick and ceramics just like steel can be made from it, and can do more with it. Ludwig in Brazil made a fortune in it. CHECK IN MINING JOURNALS IN THE STATES and have them check it out and get the information.

Science class questions:

- 1) Area behind old sawmill should be plowed up; ALREADY DONE.
 - 2) Soccer field--Mike to plow it in couple days; will do adjacent field at same time.
 - 3) Bush cabbage-heart of Palm--Takes 10 years to first harvest..
 - 4) Jackpath to Lynetta Lane? 1st period class volunteered to take it on.
 - 5) Students can take notes only if for science--Ushers to watch!
- EX Dr Ferrans (said JJ) told us he never saw leadership participate like it does here! Even Guyana has it over Cuba with no pomp and ceremony used in other socialist parts of the world.

INCUBATOR--JJ said Dr. Fernans said we need 200 egg incubator. Get the roosters out.. Most of our hens seem too old. Roof should go way out, lot of circulation.

TELL GEORGETOWN TO GO OVER TO DR. FERRANDS AND STAY THERE COUPLE DAYS AND LEARN ALL THEY CAN ABOUT THE CHICKENS.

Julie was down there when chicks came in; Julie and Florine Douglas were down there day baby chicks were pipped.. TABLE IT.. JUVANTS TO KNOW ABOUT 47x \$13.

Dr. Fernans said use pupane if worms; takes care of them all.

JJ: WHEN SLAUGHTERING, CHECK AND SEE IF ANY WORMS. WAS IN HIS CRAW.. CHECK NEXT FEW CHICKENS.

NEWCASTLE--a virus that runs rapidly thru flock; 1 year cycle on layers; suggests we use live vaccine. Is worldwide disease, has wiped out most of chickens in No. America.

Feed

Said Cassava okay for bulk in the feed --but need to add concentrates of vitamins and minerals.. Buy in concentrated form. Add churn minerals. Showed how to figure for balance.. Chip and dry overnight; soak it; no cyanide to bother us --said cheaper in long run.

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R Research our access to the vitamins and mineral concentrates, said JJ.

ANYONE WHO CAN'T PASS 50% of questions will be eligible for learning..

Pigfeed

Dr. F. said #104, for pigs, can be eaten by cattle; the #105 churn minerals for cattle cannot be eaten by pigs because they do not have enough stomachs to digest the added fiber that is put in cattle feed.

Space

Figure 1 sq. ft. per bird: 500 chickens: 500 sq. ft.

Contamination

Jim Morrell said chickens at piggery okay, but should not be overdone. As long as on oppo side, CAN have germs passed: can carry manure from one place to other on feet--transmits all sorts of parasites and disease. Cocksilliosis can be passed to hogs.

R Charlie mentioned small birds cannot stand drafts.. JJ SAID POSSIBLY ASK DR. FERNANS TO DINNER AT HOUSE IN GTN.

Keeping time now for wage figures.. Jj wants costs figured.

Fernans remembers when Joyce was ohly female here.

Land clear

Biggest problem is portion that appears from the road. Should be cleared. Is an eyesore.

Dr Fernans said Guyanese were not willing to endure the hardships.

J says they may need tight controls and regimentation to get it done in Guyana.. Discipline; in Cuba they do not fool around.. REMINDE JJ TO TELL WHAT HE HEARD... he mentioned Jagan's name...

DAD...

Dad's motto: From each according to his ability; to each according to his need.

CUBA MOTTO IS: FROM EACH ACCORDING TO HIS ABILITY: TO EACH ACCORDING TO HIS "WORK."

Dr. Fernans said Seniors should work and be productive

New area

Mike mentioned area by new toilet; storage area for wood; remove scrap wood and plow. JJ AGREED.

Herbs

Freezedry was confronted on his irresponsibility; Shirley Fields was placed in charge of herbs, and Fannie Jordan and others can help her.. some of the seniors might help, Dad said.

See PEOPLES RALLY MINUTES FOR BALANCE OR MEETING... Vernetta takes minutes on the Rally subjects.

Special reports attached.

B6-k-11-7

L1 to
14 Feb '8

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Cassava Mill No longer in operation as of this date.

TRACTOR 12th Disked 2 areas on road for cassava; quit at 1pm to go unload the boat.
13th Unloaded boat
14th Rotovated peanuts in field 6; rotovated 6 beds in west garden.

CASSAVA CREW 12th Planted 8 sections at corner of road on the left hand side; we weeded papaya trees at back of same field.
13th Went down road 1/2 mi past piggery to do maint. work. Weeded 95 rows on the rt hand side of road, and 23 rows on left side. There was 1 bag cassava bagged and delivered to the mill. Mary Wotherspoon will be checking with me daily in reference to needing more cassava for cookies or cereal.
14th Weeded first couple fields around bend; 223 rows on the right hand side and 198 on left. We went down road about 11:30 am to plant cassava in field past mill on left hand side. Completed 19 1/2 sections.

Took survey for discolored leaves in fields that are planted all the way down the road to banana trees. Problem in first area on rt side; survey was turned over to Russell.

BB-1-11-8

14 Feb 3

SMOKEHOUSE EXPERIMENT-- Don Fitch

With collected ideas from personal experience, advice and pictures of smoke houses, we have come up with a pretty reliable, easy to operate meat smoker. The method we used can be utilized with many variations of bigger scale and design.

Our smoker was made from an old refrigerator, with a half barrel used as a stove and a pipe connecting the two things learned from this test are:

- 1) our stove produced many times more smoke than we needed so the same sized stove can be used on a much larger walk-in type.
- 2) Fish should have skin left on for better results;
- 3) Fillet of fish should be boiled or have skin to keep from sticking, while fish steaks have no problem about sticking to the racks.
- 4) Top of box cooks faster even though heat comes from bottom.
- 5) Banana leaves made good smoke. Locust bark after used up as tea are also good. Some of the woods work well too.
- 6) I think twin smoke houses could be built. One for the curing process, and the other for storage with very, very cool smoke. Details can be worked out.

I am sure Gene has made his own discoveries along with everyone else's ideas; I think we can come up with the perfect meat curing process.

P. S. MAYBE DRIED BANANAS, OR SWEET POTATOES OR ANYTHING CAN BE TRIED...

GRENADILLA: Chemical analysis--

The flesh 93.7% water, 0.7% protein; 0.2% fat; Carbohydrate 4.3%; fiber 0.7%; ash 0.4%; The seeds and aril (seed covering) have about 17.6% carbohydrate.

Uses: The flesh and pulp of the fruit are edible and are eaten alone or in fruit salads. They are used to flavor ice cream and sherbets to make a cooling drink and jam. The tuberous root is usually regarded as poisonous, although they are said to be eaten in Jamaica as substitute for yams

PUMPKIN: Chemical analysis--

The edible portion, about 70% in mature fruits, has the following approximate composition: water 90%; protein 1%; fat 0.2%; carbohydrates 8%; fiber 0.5%; The immature fruits contain more water and less nutrients, but have less waste. The seed kernels contain 40-50% oil and 30% protein. Largely used in pies and sandwiches.

FACTORS... Grenadilla has more variety of uses; pumpkins can be grown in the field; grenadilla has to grow in an area by itself. We can grow both, and pumpkins can be and are grown in the rows and fields now. Grenadilla should be grown in both windrows.

Pumpkin can be grown in the triangle between the windrows and the present garden area behind Dorm 5, 1/2 acre; after pushed out.

BB-1-11-9

14 Feb

Grenadilla bears continuously.

Pumpkin has to be replanted twice a year.

Grenadilla does not need to be fertilized or given special care, or sprayed. A wild fruit in area.

WINDMILL:

Dad (from Peter Wotherspoon) --In Jtn we don't have consistently high winds that would make wind a good source of power, but I think the trade winds might still be harvested to obtain useful work.

I propose we build a windmill with collapsible vanes to avoid high wind damage. A small windmill such as midwestern farmers construct on a tower, could be geared or adapted to pump water, mill cassava flour, run a small charging generator or turn a fan for drying. The tower could be constructed in such a way as to provide a high look out post for security with field glasses. Perhaps wind power might be adapted for irrigation during the dry spell.

LARGE GRILL OR SKILLET: A large skillet, metal exposed to uneven heating over a long period of time. Such as occurs with our present wood fire and stoves, tends to sag and dent and does not lend itself to the even distribution of oil as is needed for a skillet.

solution: A SEPARATE sheet of metal, crimped on the edges to keep oil from running off could have handles welded on the edges for easy removal and carrying. The skillet would cover the whole top of the regular stove, laying on top and acquiring heat by transfer. It would only be exposed to heat while the actual cooking is being done; so it would not be weakened as the regular stove tops are. Also, removal would make it easier to clean.

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BB-1-111-10

AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
and
PEOPLES RALLY

Saturday 18 Feb 78

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Chairperson: Guy Mitchell, analyst

- 1) Followup & Announcements
- 2) Fields & Rice-John Wilsey
- 3) Gardens -Simpson & Shirley S.
Waterpump for Agric previously
approved. What happened?
- 4) Senior Gardens-Selika B.
- 5) Cassava-Margarita Romano
- 6) Citrus & Nursery-Becky Flowers
and Gene Chaikin
- 7) Bananas - Danny Futulas
- 8) Peanuts and Sorrel-Jack B.
- 9) Tractors -Philip Blakey
- 10) Land Clearing -Mike Touchette
- 11) Herbal Gardens-Shirley Fields
and Fannie Jordan
- 12) Cattle, Pigs & Horses-Guy Mitchell
- 13) Chickenry-Rob Gieg
- 14) Small Animals-Chris Tally
- 15) Cassava Mill or Cane Grinding-Mary W.
- 16) Agronomy & Composting-Russell
- 17) Insecticide Usage-Ernesting Blaire

BB-1-11-11