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## Report 1915-17 With the Supplement to the Guide to the Experimental Plots Containing the Yields per Acre Etc.



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## Enquiries Undertaken at Government Request

### Rothamsted Research

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EXPERIMENTAL ENQUIRIES UNDERTAKEN AT THE  
REQUEST OF THE VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS  
DURING THE WAR.

Among the enquiries carried out at Rothamsted at the request of the various Government Departments, have been the following :—

1. Reclamation schemes, 1914-15.
  - Report on soils on Foulness Island.
  - Report on the possibility of cultivating and utilising the pit mounds of the Black Country.
  - Report on the reclamation of Pagham Harbour.
- 2.. Fertiliser Problems, 1915-18.
  - Fertilising value of Humogen.
  - Report on fertilising value of different nitrogen compounds.
  - The possibility of using nitre-cake in the manufacture of superphosphate.
  - Fertilising value of sulphate of ammonia made by the use of nitre-cake.
  - Fertilising value of basic slag made by different processes.
  - Possibility of using flue dusts as sources of potash.
  - Harmful constituents of flue dusts.
  - Fertilising value of residues containing potassium from cement works, wool scouring processes, bracken ash and other sources.
  - Possibility of extracting potash from wool.
  - Methods of evaluating organic fertilisers.
  - Fertilising values of different kinds of lime, limestone, lime residues ; effects of fineness of grinding, etc.
  - Possibility of utilising peat in the manufacture of ammonia.
3. Utilisation of waste materials.
  - Fertilising values of a large number of manufacturers' waste products submitted from time to time by the Board of Agriculture and the Food Production Department.
  - Fertilising value of City wastes and residues.
  - Possibility of absorbing ammoniacal drainings, now run to waste from farmyard manure, cow byres, etc.
  - Utilisation of munitions wastes for fertilising purposes.
  - Possibility of utilising urine for fertilising purposes.
4. Food Production Problems.
  - Possibility or otherwise of cultivating the Royal Parks.
  - Causes of infertility of various important areas of land.
  - Possibility of utilising straw as manure.
  - Issue of Monthly Notes to farmers on Fertilisers in the Journal of the Board of Agriculture.
5. General Problems.
  - Amount of dry matter and of nitrogen in potatoes grown under different conditions.
  - Report on suitability of certain soils for latrines.
  - Methods of conserving and utilising Army stable manure.
  - Report on the effects of superphosphate on the yields of crops.

The Director is a member of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Food Production Department, of the Electro-Culture Committee of the Board of Agriculture, the National Salvage Council, the Munitions Inventions Panel, the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Science, and other Government committees.