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Report 1921-22 With the Supplement to the Guide to the Experimental Plots Containing the Yields per Acre Etc.



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Apicultural Investigations

Rothamsted Research

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that there is no delay in action such as is occasioned in the case of fungicides by the slow penetration of the chemical agent.

APICULTURAL INVESTIGATIONS.

The circumstance that Dr. Imms was interested in bees led the Ministry of Agriculture to suggest that the Entomological Department should undertake the study of bees as honey producers, leaving bee diseases to be studied at Aberdeen as at present. Mr. D. M. T. Morland was appointed to be in charge of the work, and he will at an early date proceed to the United States to study the methods in use there. In the meantime, two minor problems of practical importance are being investigated: the suitability of metal combs in place of those naturally built, and the situation of the frames in relation to the hive front.

A field laboratory has been erected and is now in working order.

THE ASSOCIATED FARMS.

WOBURN.

In 1921 the Royal Agricultural Society gave up the Woburn Experimental Farm which they had carried on continuously since 1870, and its two best known fields—Stackyard and Lansome—were in October, 1921, taken over by the Rothamsted Experimental Station so as to ensure the continuance of the permanent wheat and barley experiments which are second only to those of Broadbalk and Hoos fields in point of age. The necessary funds are obtained from a special grant of the Ministry of Agriculture. Dr. Voelcker continues to supervise the experiments as he has done since 1890; the continuity of the records is therefore assured. It should be recorded that he acts in an honorary capacity, freely giving much time and trouble to this work. His report will be found on p. 61.

LEADON COURT.

In December, 1922, E. D. Simon, Esq., then Lord Mayor of Manchester, offered us the use of his farm at Leadon Court, Ledbury, for experimental purposes, himself generously defraying the expenses incurred. It was decided to devote the whole farm to a test of the soiling system of keeping dairy cows, which has aroused much interest among farmers. Small scale trials at the Harper Adams Agricultural College had indicated the feasibility of all of the processes involved, but no conclusions as to the economic value of the system could be reached. Mr. J. C. Brown was appointed manager.

The farm is 240 acres in extent, there being at present 110 acres of arable and 140 of grass, of which 20 acres will be ploughed out, making altogether 130 acres of arable and 110 of grass. It is expected to maintain a herd of 100 cows in full milk, and in addition some 30 dry cows, and some 30 young heifers coming on; also a herd of pigs. It is also hoped to have a considerable amount of wheat for sale.