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Report for 1957

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Fifty Year Index to the Rothamsted Annual Report, 1908-1957

Rothamsted Research

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FIFTY-YEAR INDEX
TO THE
ROTHAMSTED
ANNUAL REPORT
(1908-57)

For fifty years the work of Rothamsted has been described in the *Rothamsted Annual Report*. The first *Report* (for 1908) was a pamphlet sixteen pages in length. Subsequent issues have steadily increased in size, keeping pace with the expansion of Rothamsted itself, until today the *Report* cannot be kept down much below 300 pages.

How were the results of the Rothamsted experiments communicated to the public before the *Report* was started?

The earliest published account of the work at Rothamsted appeared over Sir John Lawes's signature in *The Gardener's Chronicle and Agricultural Gazette*, 14 June 1845 (pp. 406–407).

In July 1855—the month in which the Testimonial Laboratory, presented to Lawes by a group of Hertfordshire farmers, was opened—the first independent report of the Rothamsted experiments, a pamphlet of four pages, was issued under the title *Rothamsted Farm*.

From 1862 to 1901 *Memoranda of the plan and results of the Rothamsted field experiments* were published under slightly varying titles—annually from 1869 to 1901. This publication was superseded by *Plans and summary tables, arranged for reference in the fields*, which had started in 1896 and continued until 1905.

A *Guide to the experimental plots* was issued in 1906, and the first *Annual Report* (for 1908, published in 1909) was designed partly as a supplement to the *Guide*.

For the first seven years, as also since 1946, the *Report* was published annually; during the intervening period a number of issues covering two or more years appeared.

Fifty-Year Index to the Rothamsted Annual Report (1908-57)

Note: This is *not* a full technical index. It records only review articles and summaries of experimental results, buildings erected and land acquired, chairmen of the Lawes Agricultural Trust Committee, Directors and Heads of Departments of Rothamsted Experimental Station, and a few miscellanea.

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