

Notes on the Question of Tomato Varieties.

by the Extension Division.

In 1928 the Extension Division continued to examine the tomato varieties in different parts of the country (Judea, Plain of Esdraelon, Jordan Valley). There are 39 varieties of which 7 are new ones, which have not yet been examined. The "Tookwood" and "Pierette" varieties which we introduced last year have already been put to practical use in truck gardens according to our advice and fulfilled the hopes that were placed on them. They are now sold by seed firms.

Of the seven new varieties we should mention the varieties P. N. No. 1, M. O. No. 2, No. 3 No. 4, T. A. No. 5. which are remarkable for their earliness, the shape of their fruits and their yield. We hope to introduce them into farms next year, once we have studied their characteristics.

Trunk and Root Disease of Banana Plants.

by Dr. I. Reichert.

Two years ago there were serious mischances in banana growing in various parts of the country. The plants did not bear fruit, as the bunches were strangled in the interior of the plant. This was attributed to the nematodes which were in the roots of the diseased bananas. In the course of the investigation we found that besides the nematodes (as well as the bacteria which we isolated from the diseased roots) there exists in Palestine the "Bunchy top" disease, the same that is found in Australia, Fiji and Egypt endangering banana cultivation in entire regions.

Activities.

Soil analyses. — Seed testing. — Analyses of chemical fertilizers; arab manures, oil cakes etc. — Control of diseases and new plant diseases. — Insect pest control. — Agricultural lessons. — Seed flax growing. — Fat test of milk. — Alfalfa yield on the demonstration field in Magdiel. — Calf shows. — Meeting of poultry husbandmen. — Meeting of dairymen. — Pure bred hens (Leghorn) from England. — Minerals for calf feeding. — Vicia Narbonensis seeds. —