

It is noteworthy also that "Stoffert's Immune" ripens early. Its fruit is round, attractive in appearance, and firm. It is somewhat smaller in size than is now common in Palestine but fulfills the requirement of foreign markets.

The high yield per dunam is obtained due to the close planting which rates 3000—4000 plants per dunam as against the accepted 1500 plants per dunam with plants of normal growth. The distance between rows should be 90—100 cm.; the distance within the row approximately 30 cm.

The "Marmande" variety gave a high and uniform yield wherever it was tested and is therefore judged to be the suitable variety for cultivation on a large scale.

SCLEROTINIA ROT OF LETTUCE AND BEAN

by Dr. Devorah Sereni.

Division of Plant Pathology.

Sclerotinia minor causes rot of lettuce and blight of the bean in Palestine. This fungus occurs on other hosts, e. g. cabbage, tomato, clover, potato, carnation, phlox and citrus seedlings.

The optimum temperature of the fungus was shown to be 20—25°; the maximum approximately 30°.

A good growth was obtained on both acid and alkaline media, though the acid seems to be preferred.

The sclerotia which are the reproductive bodies of the fungus remain viable over a period of more than a year's time and show a marked resistance to high temperatures.

Artificial inoculation of lettuce, bean and potatoes induced the symptoms found in nature. Positive results were obtained also in inoculation experiments with orange, clementine, apple, pear, banana, egg plant, and pepper.

Sclerotinia is not susceptible to disinfectants containing copper sulfate or sulfur, but is very susceptible for formalin, and to compounds containing mercury. $\frac{1}{4}\%$ concentration of sublimate, Uspulun, Ceresan, or formalin prevent growth.

REVIEW OF INVESTIGATIONS RELATING TO ANIMAL NUTRITION CONDUCTED DURING THE PERIOD 1934—1938.

by the Division of Animal Nutrition.

A brief review of investigations completed and ready for publication as well as of those in progress is given.

Four principle lines of investigation are distinguished, viz :

- (1) Experimental testing of feeds not at present common in Palestine ;
- (2) Determination of digestion coefficients of different feeds ;
- (3) Experiments on the methods of storage of different feeds ;
- (4) Determination of the chemical composition of different new forage crops, particularly in relation to the influence of different growth conditions.

The latter line of investigation is conducted in close collaboration with the Agronomy Division.

INFECTIOUS ABORTION OF CATTLE.

(A note on the disease and on the susceptibility of the Syrian Hamster *Cricetus Auratus* to *Brucella Abortus Bang*).

By Dr. I. Tchernomoretz.

A general description of the disease, its damages and means of control, is given.

The routine animal for work on infectious abortion of cattle