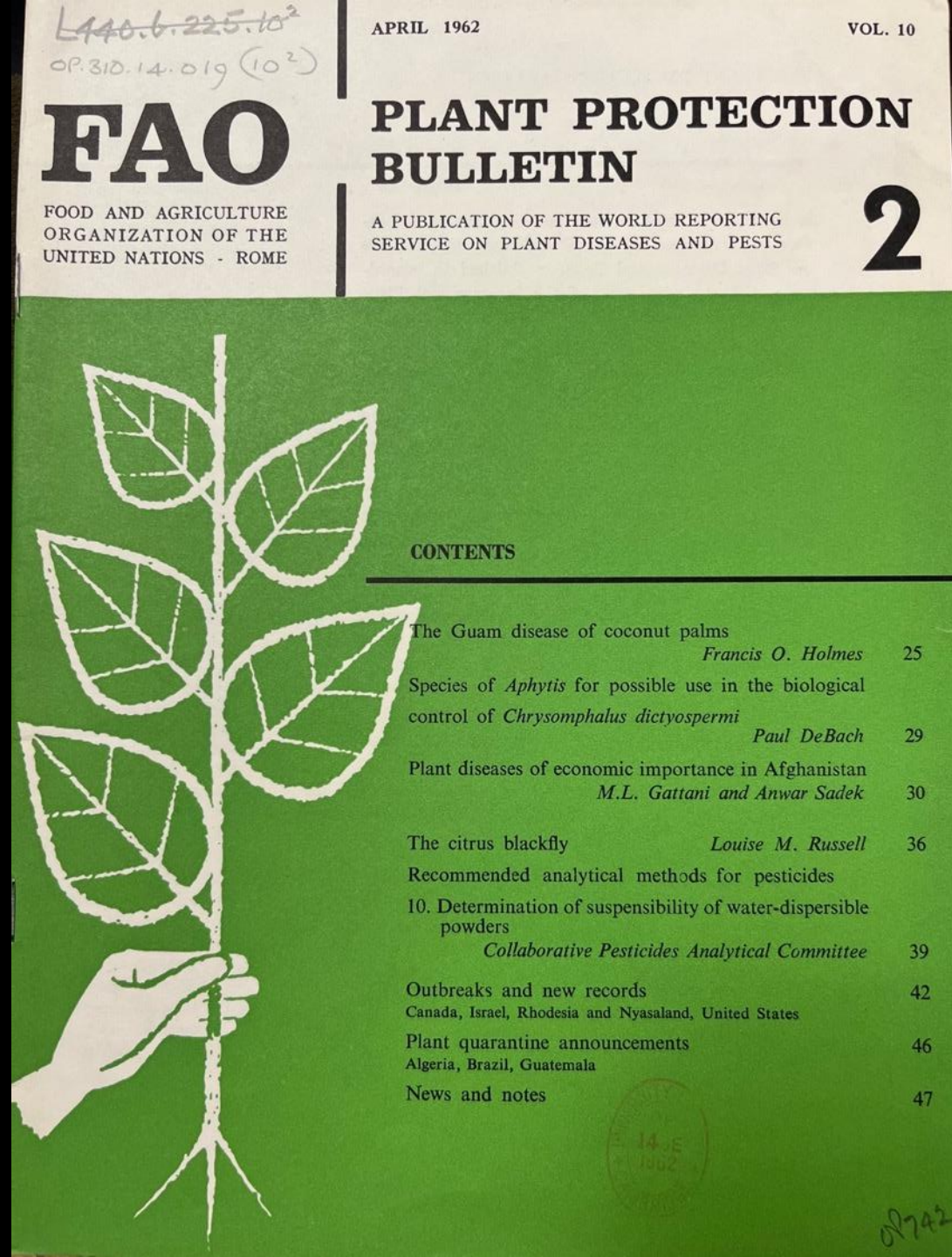


‘Frank and Honest’? The Politics of International Plant Pest Reporting, 1952–1994

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Global Food Security Coffee Break Seminar 2024



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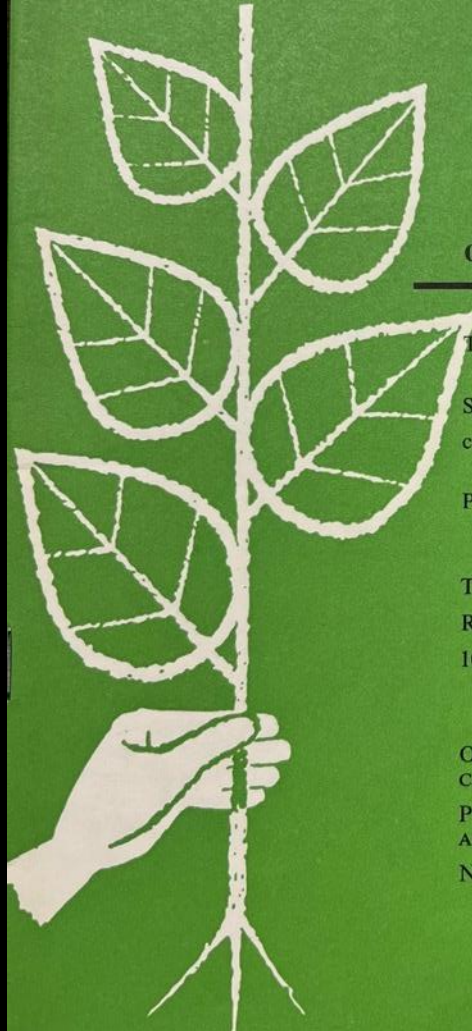
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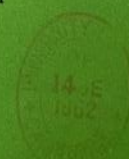
A PUBLICATION OF THE WORLD REPORTING
SERVICE ON PLANT DISEASES AND PESTS

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OXFORD



ERAS IN EPIDEMIOLOGY

The Evolution of Ideas

Mervyn Susser
Zena Stein

STATISTICS and the LANGUAGE of GLOBAL HEALTH

Institutions and Experts in China, Taiwan,
and the World, 1917–1960



YI-TANG LIN

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World health by place: the politics of international health system metrics, 1924–c. 2010*

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Abstract

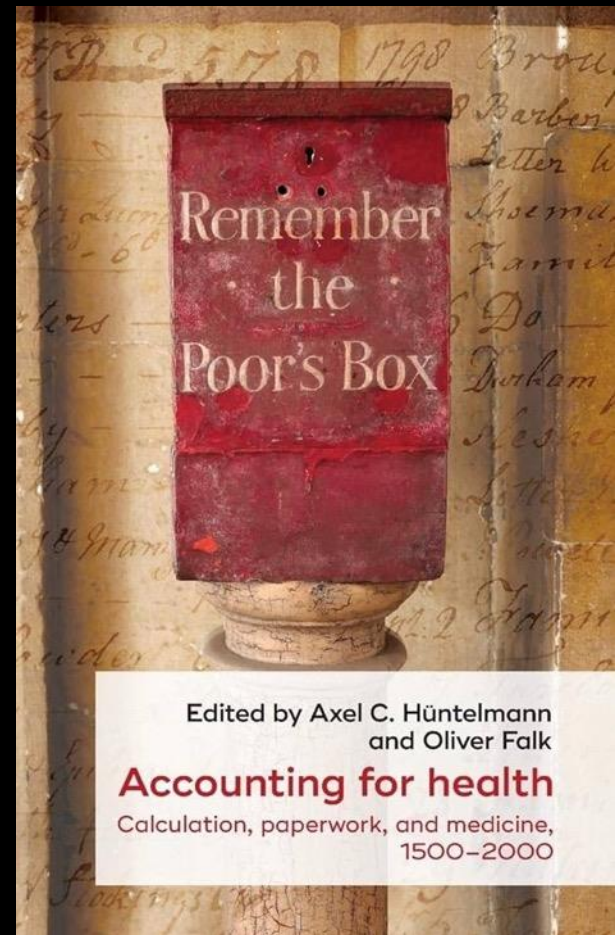
This article examines the development of health system metrics by international organizations, exploring their relationship to the politics of world health. Current historiography treats measurement either as progressive illumination or adopts a critical stance, viewing indicators as instruments of global governance by powerful nations. We draw on diverse statistical publications to provide an empirical overview of change and continuity, beginning with the League of Nations Health Organization, which initiated health system statistics, and concluding with the World Health Organization report 2000, with its controversial comparative rankings. We then develop analysis and explanation of these trends. Population indicators appeared consistently owing to their protective function and compatibility with development thinking. Others, related to provision, financing, and coverage, appeared more sporadically, owing to changing trends and assumptions in international health. While partly affirming the critical literature, metrics were also used by peripheral or resistant actors to challenge or influence policy at the centre.

Keywords global health, international organizations, metrics, statistics, World Health Organization

Introduction

In the later twentieth century a language of ‘global health’ entered the lexicon of international policy-making. This usage signalled a qualitative difference between mid-century internationalism, founded on the shared interest of nation-states, and a new period in which the

* Earlier versions of this article were presented at the European Social Science History Conference, University of Valencia, March 2016, the International Health Organizations Network Conference, University of Shanghai, April 2016, and the Society for the Social History of Medicine Conference, University of Kent, June 2016. We thank participants and discussants for their helpful suggestions, and also thank Anne-Emmanuelle Bier, David Roubi, and George Weisz for their advice. Our research is funded by a Wellcome Trust Medical Humanities Investigator Award (grant no. 106720/Z/15/Z) and we are most grateful for this generous support.



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and Oliver Falk

Accounting for health

Calculation, paperwork, and medicine,
1500–2000

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No. 1

THE PLANT DISEASE REPORTER

Issued By

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BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Vol. 26

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January 15, 1942

JAN 30 1942



The Plant Disease Reporter is issued as a service to plant pathologists throughout the United States. It contains reports, summaries, observations, and comments submitted voluntarily by qualified observers. These reports often are in the form of suggestions, queries, and opinions, frequently purely tentative, offered for consideration or discussion rather than as matters of established fact. In accepting and publishing this material the Division of Mycology and Disease Survey serves merely as an informational clearing house. It does not assume responsibility for the subject matter. K

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**BULLETIN OF THE BUREAU OF
AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE AND OF
PLANT-DISEASES** ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲

2nd YEAR - NUMBER 1
▲ JANUARY 1911 ▲



January 1911

The radio communiqués of the International Institute of Agriculture will be transmitted between 7.18 and 7.26 p. m. on the following days: Thursday, English; Friday, German; Saturday, Spanish; Tuesday, Italian; Wednesday, French.
They will be broadcast from Rome 1 (420.8 m.) and Rome 2 RO (25.4 m.).
The hour of broadcasts is in Central European Time, which is one hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time, and 5 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time in the United States.

**INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN
OF PLANT PROTECTION**

DISCOVERIES AND CURRENT EVENTS *

Brazil: Diseases of Cultivated or Useful Plants, Observed in the State of São Paulo †

In the following list (first part) are given the diseases of cultivated or useful plants, studied at the Laboratory of Plant Pathology of the Institute of Biology, São Paulo, from 1931 to 1936.

The recognition of the parasites and diseases here enumerated was made by the author of the present communication and also by Messrs. Raul Drummond Gonçalves, João G. Carneiro and Spencer C. Arruda, assistants in the aforesaid Institute.

PINEAPPLE	<i>Ceratostomella paradoxa</i> (Fr.) Wint. <i>Phytophthora</i> sp.
GROUNDNUT	<i>Cercospora personata</i> (E. and C.) Ell.
ARTICHOKE	<i>Ramularia cynaræ</i> Sacc.
AVOCADO PEAR	<i>Sphaceloma perseæ</i> Jenk. <i>Oidium perseæ</i> Noack. <i>Colletotrichum gloeosporioides</i> Penz. <i>Hendersonia</i> sp. <i>Diplodia natalensis</i> Ev. <i>Acrostalagmus cinnabarinus</i> Corda. <i>Pestalozzia</i> sp.
Eruptive pustule of the fruit	Cause unknown.
Mosaic	Virus ?
Necrosis of the limb	Virus ?
Sooty mold	<i>Stomiopeltis</i> sp.
Lenticellosis of the fruit	Physiological cause.

* Under this and the next heading the countries are arranged in French alphabetical order.
† Communication from the official correspondent of the Institute, Mr. AGESILAU A. BITANCOURT, Assistant, Director of the Institute of Biology, Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, São Paulo, Brazil.

c. 1936

Plant Protection Bulletin

Vol. I, No. 1

A Publication of the

OCTOBER 1952

World Reporting Service on Plant Diseases and Pests

Objectives of the Bulletin

L. E. KIRK

Chief, Plant Production Branch, Agriculture Division, FAO

THE FAO Plant Protection Bulletin is intended to further the objectives of the International Plant Protection Convention, which was approved by the FAO Conference at its Sixth Session in 1951. There have so far been no centralized arrangements for circulating information on the incidence of plant pests and diseases of economic importance in different countries, on the degree of damage they cause and on their control. As this has greatly handicapped international cooperation in the field of plant protection, the Convention provides for the establishment of a World Reporting Service on Plant Diseases and Pests, which will collect and disseminate information of this type.

Scheme for the Regions

In response to the announcement by FAO of the initiation of the World Reporting Service, more than thirty FAO Member Governments have already indicated their support and readiness to participate. It is hoped that the development of this Service will stimulate the organisation of more satisfactory national reporting systems for plant pests and diseases in certain other countries where such facilities do not at present exist.

In order to achieve an international network, FAO is especially interested in the establishment of regional plant protection organisations, particularly in regions comprising a number of countries requiring more adequate co-ordination in plant protection activities. These organisations, when established, would constitute the appropriate bodies for promoting the dissemination in the region of information on the incidence and

spread of important plant pests and diseases and provide channels through which national plant protection agencies would be more closely linked with the World Reporting Service.

The European Plant Protection Organisation, which has been operating effectively since July 1950, is co-operating fully with FAO in this respect, and the establishment of similar regional bodies is under consideration in Central America and certain other geographic areas.

The present co-ordination and frequent exchange of information relating to plant protection between the United States of America, Canada and Mexico will enable these countries to participate in the World Reporting Service as a group, and the South Pacific Commission will also function in the same way as a regional center.

To enable the World Reporting Service to achieve maximum geographical coverage, FAO relies not only upon the collaborating Governments and regional organisations, but also upon the co-operation of institutions and individual workers who are engaged in field surveys or related activities. Occasional reports from such sources will be welcome.

Scope of Information

This Bulletin provides a medium for the prompt publication of information received by the FAO World Reporting Service. The following main aspects will be covered:

- (1) Incidence and spread of plant pests and diseases of immediate or potential danger.
- (2) Occurrence of plant pests and diseases in areas previously free.

Outbreaks and New Records

Puerto Rico

W. C. KENNARD and J. L. SPENCER
Federal Experiment Station, Agricultural Research Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Mayaguez

Frankliniella sp. on Mango: a First Record

A thrips, an unidentified species of *Frankliniella*,^{1,2} has been found to cause extensive damage to unopened buds and expanding flowers of mango (*Mangifera indica*) in Puerto Rico. The females of these minute insects have a saw-like ovipositor with which they penetrate the buds to deposit their eggs inside the young flower, sometimes within the ovary. The eggs hatch and the immature forms feed on the developing pollen and floral tissues, particularly the ovary and the fleshy disc upon which it rests. All stages from eggs to mature forms were noted in living flowers and sectioned material.

Flowers of the following mango varieties were studied with regard to thrips injury:

Amini, Cambodiana, Divine, Martinique, Mullgoa, and Totafari. An average of almost 1,000 flowers was examined from each of these six varieties and the average incidence of thrips injury was about 31 percent. Cambodiana was the most susceptible, with 74 percent of its flowers damaged, while Divine, with only 8 percent of its blooms attacked, was the least susceptible of the varieties studied.

This is the first record of a species of *Frankliniella* attacking young mango flowers. The thrips, although unidentified as to species, is a member of the *cephalica* group and is allied to *F. borinquen*.²

¹ ANDERSON, W. H. Communication dated 28 June 1955.

² HOOD, J. D. Communication dated 25 October 1955.

Southern Rhodesia

J. A. WHELLAN
Entomological Branch
Department of Research and Specialist Services, Salisbury

Storage Insects

Khapra beetle. Following the discovery of the Khapra beetle (*Trogoderma granarium* Everts) at Bulawayo in February 1955, this insect has now been found at Gwelo, Salisbury (in several localities) and Glendale. Some of the localities in which it is now known to occur were carefully examined in 1953 and 1954 and it was not found then. All the evidence points to it being a recent arrival but it is already widespread.

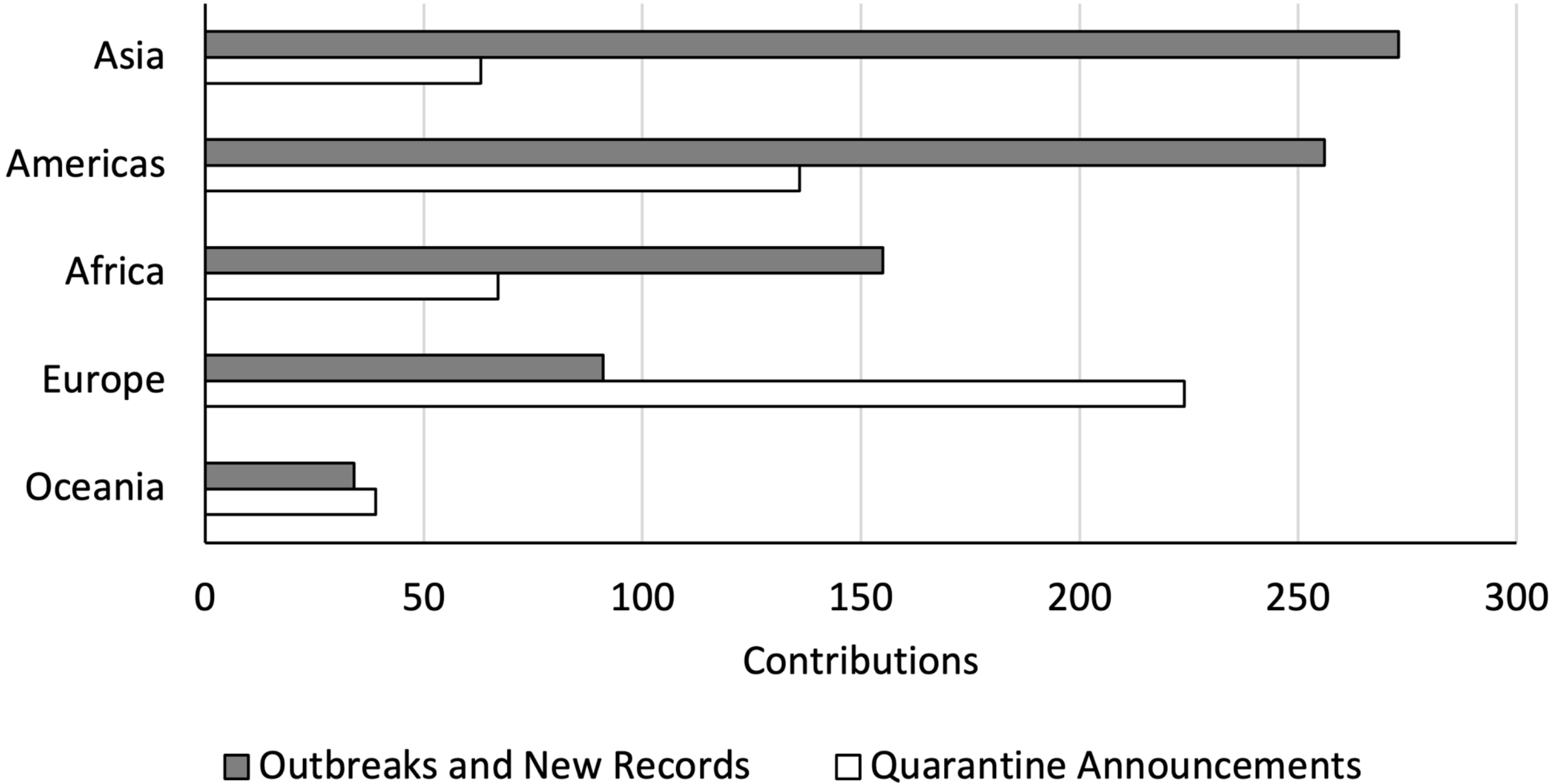
Flour beetle. The long-headed flour beetle (*Latheticus oryzae* Waterhouse) has been found abundantly in stored grain at Aspindale near Salisbury. It does not seem to have been found in Southern Rhodesia before, but it could easily have been overlooked.

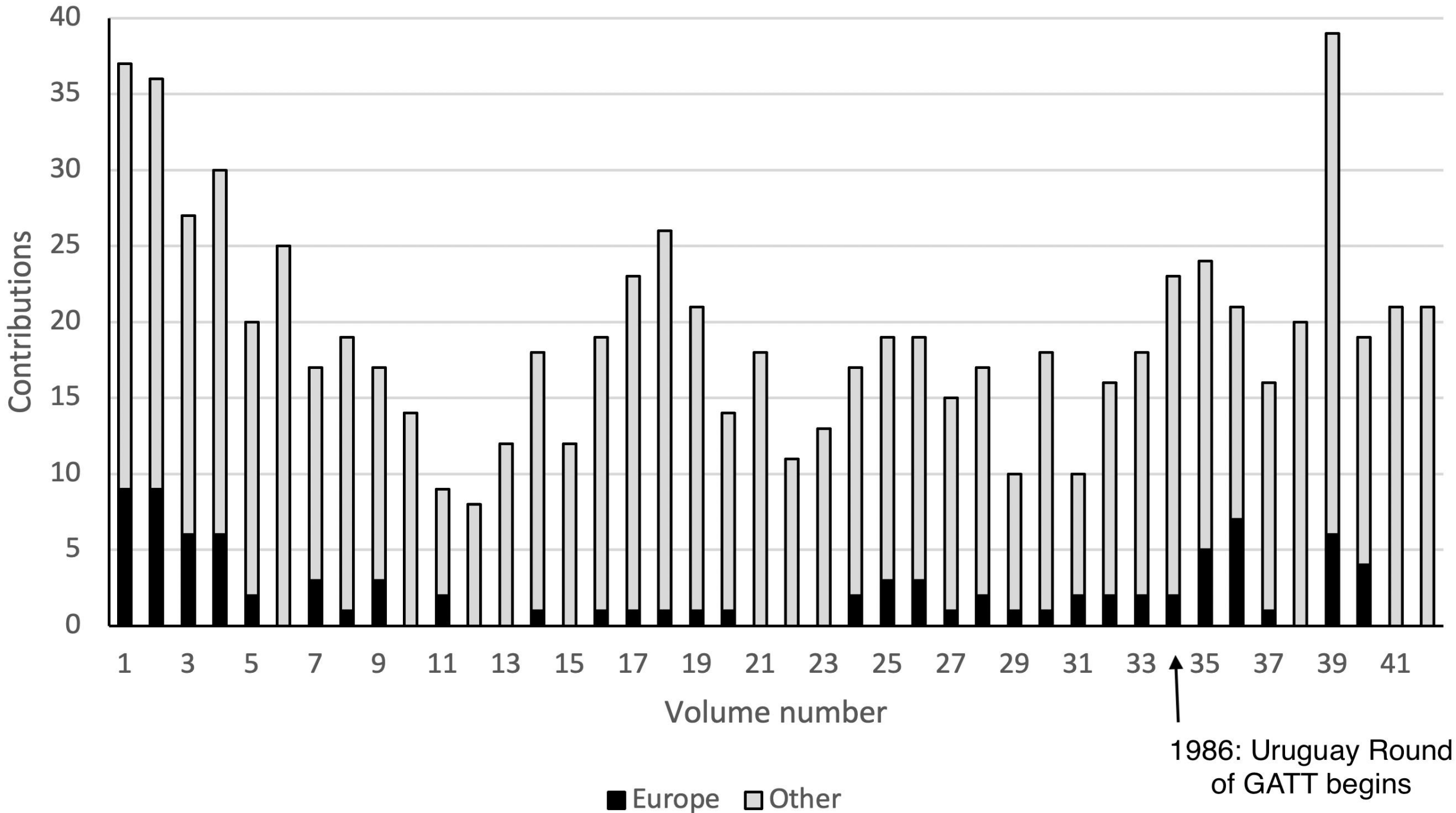
African Army Worm

Larvae of the African army worm (*Laphygma exempta* WIK.) were found in outbreak numbers early in November 1955. They occurred in uncultivated ground which had received a freak hailstorm in mid-October. This occurrence was followed by a widespread, but rather diffuse, outbreak of the larvae all through December.

Chilo on Rice

A species of *Chilo* was bred from borers in the stems of rice and rapok (*Eleusine coracana*). This appears to be the first record of a moth of this genus in Southern Rhodesia.





Insect Pests in British Colonial Dependencies: A Half-Yearly Report¹

W. J. HALL

Commonwealth Institute of Entomology, London

Asia

Hong Kong

CONSIDERABLE damage to the first rice crop in 1955 was caused, in many areas, by the rice stem-borer, *Schoenobius incertulas* (Wlk.) (Lep., Pyralidae) (see *FAO Plant Prot. Bull.* 3: 56, 1955). In some areas losses were as high as 30 percent. Organized control was undertaken by the Department of Agriculture in co-operation with the farmers. A reduction in loss to 10 percent was found possible by the application of an endrin spray to nurseries, and two or three times to the growing crop.

Many species of flea-beetle (Col., Halticinae) cause much damage to cruciferous crops. Effective control has been obtained for a number of years by the application of proprietary products containing BHC and DDT, but later these insecticides have lost their effectiveness. A parathion product gave very good results, but owing to its dangerous nature its use is under strict control. An endrin spray, 1 part in 300 parts of water, with the addition of a copper fungicide which appears to have a repellent effect, is now used. Weed hosts must also be kept down.

Malaya

A Cossid borer of cacao branches that has formerly been recorded as *Zeuzera coffeae* Nietn. has now been shown to be *Zeuzera roricyanea* Wlk.

¹ This report covers the period from July to December 1955 and includes information received too late for inclusion in the previous report.

Africa

Nigeria

The grasshopper, *Zonocerus variegatus* (L.), is again reported as causing serious damage to *Citrus* (see *FAO Plant Prot. Bull.* 3: 57, 1955) and also to cotton and cassava at Ibadan, and borers, *Phosphorus* spp. (Col., Lamiidae) (see *Rev. Appl. Ent.* A 26: 469, 1938), caused much damage to kola (*Cola* spp.) crops.

Recent investigations have shown that damage to guinea corn and other cereals by the sorghum midge, *Contarinia sorghicola* (Coq.) (see *FAO Plant Prot. Bull.* 2: 81, 1954) is more widespread than had been suspected.

An unusual infestation of rice in the Northern Region by a Cantharid beetle, *Cylindrothorax melanocephala* (F.), is recorded, and the Galerucid beetle, *Monolepta goldingi* Bryant (see *FAO Plant Prot. Bull.* 3: 56, 1955), did considerable damage to early millet at a settlement scheme in Plateau Province.

In the field of control, encouraging results are being obtained in experimental control of the cacao Mirids, *Sahlbergella singularis* Hagl. and *Distantiella theobroma* (Dist.), using gamma BHC as a low volume spray applied with power-operated knapsack sprayers, and as a dust.

A survey has been made of attack by the cereal stem-borers, *Busseola fusca* (Fuller) and *Sesamia calamistis* Hmps., in the Western Region. The percentage of plants attacked, with the number of localities sampled (in brackets) for the different crops were, maize 33 (87), rice 19 (32), guinea corn 17 (18) and sugar cane 13 (11).

British West Indies

Barbados

During the season 1951/52, a root-infesting Coccid, an apparently undescribed species of *Neorhizoecus*, was observed on sugar cane. The ant, *Aecopyga* (*Rhizomyrma*) *marshalli* Crawley, is associated with it. It is not known how long the Coccid has been established on sugar cane in Barbados because the observed symptoms are indistinguishable from those caused by several other pests. It is, however, known that the ant which attends it has been present for many years.

The Coccid, which was at first localized, has been spreading and is often abundant, when it causes failure of ratoon cane. Plant cane fields are rarely visibly affected, since the tillage operations in properly prepared fields destroy the majority of the Coccids and ants in the soil. Certain types of soil and

soil-moisture conditions seem to favor the pest.

Preliminary trials, in 1954/55, indicate that reasonably good control of the Coccid and its attendant ant can be obtained by the application of a dust of 13 lb. gamma BHC in 750 lb. diluent per acre ploughed and harrowed into the soil when preparing the land, and by broadcasting on to the soil of infested ratoon fields. Increases in yield in such treated ratoon fields have ranged from 6 to 14 tons per acre. To be effective, surface application must be followed by rain to carry the insecticide into the soil.

Grenada

Minor outbreaks of the cacao beetle, *Steirastoma breve* (Sulz.) (Col., Lamiidae), and cacao thrips, *Selenothrips rubrocinctus* (Giard), are reported during the first half of 1955.

using sprays and dusts is practised. Root-knot limits the growing of figs and almonds in some localities. A wilt disease of pistachio tree has been found in most orchards in the Mosul area and has caused considerable damage. A fungus identified as *Rosellina necatrix* was found on the roots of dead or dying trees, but it is uncertain if it is the cause of the wilt. A blackstem disease, also of undetermined cause, has been found to cause some losses in apple trees.

The following are the more common diseases of fruits and nuts:

Scab (*Venturia inequalis*) - apple
 Blackstem (undetermined) - apple
 Powdery mildew (*Uncinula necator*) - grape
 Powdery mildew (*Sphaerotheca pannosa*) - peach
 Powdery mildew (*Podosphaera oxycanthae*) - apricot, apple and pear
 Leaf curl (*Taphrina deformans*) - peach
 Leaf curl (*T. pruni*) - plum
 Rust (*Puccinia pruni-spinosae*) - peach, plum and apricot
 Shot-hole (*Cylindrosporium padi*) - plum, peach and apricot
 Leaf blister (*Polystigmia rubrum*) - plum and almond
 Rootknot (*Meloidogyne* spp.) - fig and almond
 Wilt (undetermined) - pistachio

Other crops. Sesame is widely grown as a summer crop under irrigation. Its seeds which yield oil are exported, and large quantities are used locally in garnishing bread and cakes. Stem canker (*Rhizoctonia* sp.), rootknot (*Meloidogyne* spp.), and broom-rape (*Orobanche* sp.) attack sesame but cause minor damage only.

Alfalfa is cultivated in date orchards and irrigated fields around Baghdad and other cities to the south. It is cut throughout the year, made into bundles and brought into the markets while still green. Powdery mildew (*Erysiphe polygoni*), leafspot (*Pseudopeziza medicaginis*), rust (*Uromyces striatus medicaginis*) are occasionally found on alfalfa but with little damage.

Bermuda grass is the most common perennial grass in Iraq and is found wherever there is sufficient water for plant growth. It is considered an obnoxious weed in irrigated summer crops but is also considered an excellent lawn grass and is used extensively for forage purposes. Tarspot (*Phyllachora cynodontis*), head smut (*Ustilago cynodontis*) and rust (*Puccinia cynodontis*) are found on Bermuda grass without much damage.

Progress in Plant Protection in India

V. P. RAO

Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage, New Delhi, India

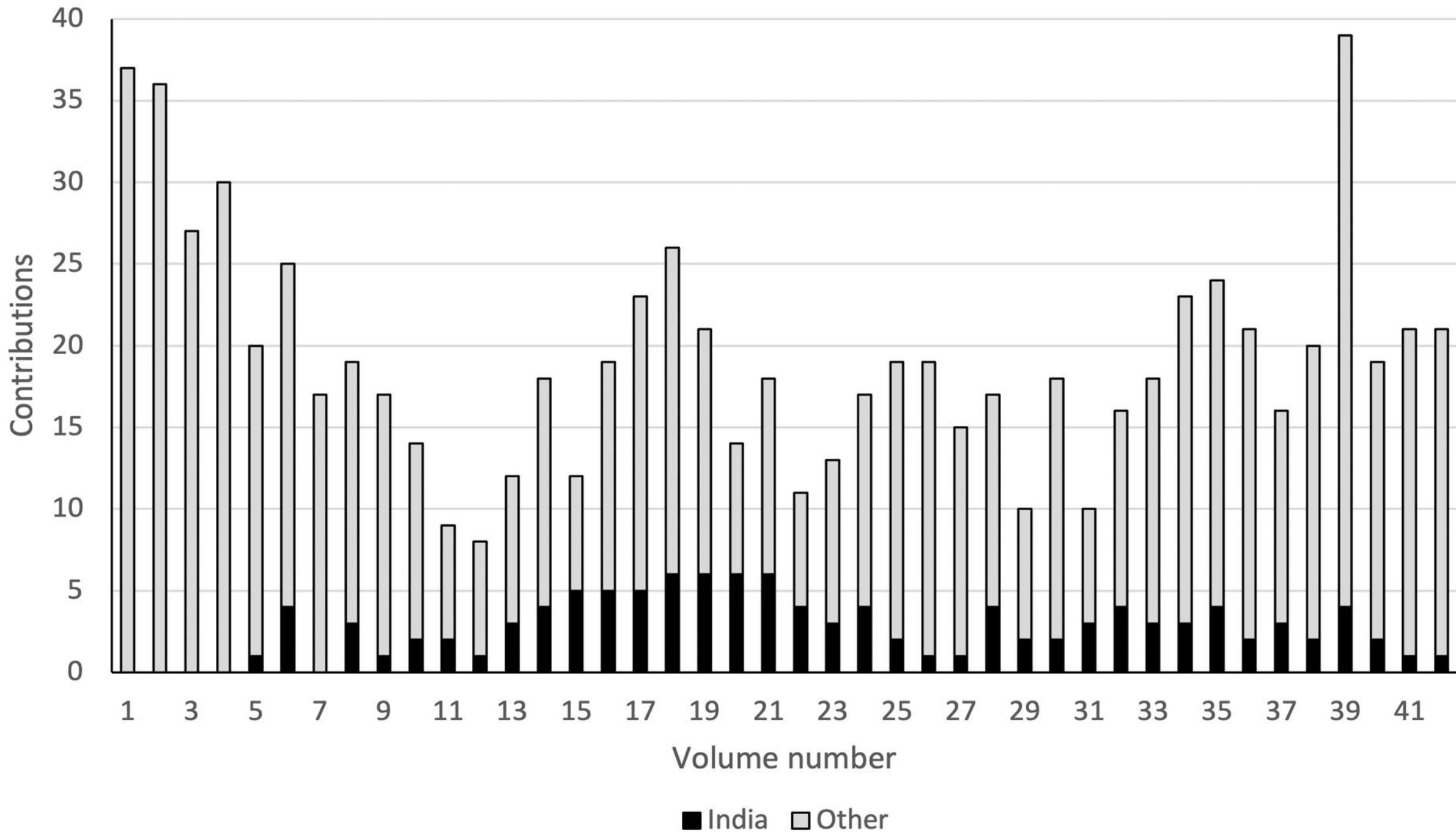
BEFORE the establishment of the Central Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage in 1946, practically no large-scale measures for the control of plant pests and diseases had been carried out on scientific lines in India except in the case of the Desert Locust. Since the inauguration of the Directorate, nation-wide campaigns have been promoted against major pests and diseases.

The main functions of the Central Directorate are as follows:

- (1) to organise campaigns against pests and diseases of all-India importance;
- (2) to take adequate measures against the

- entry into India of new pests and diseases through imported plant material;
- (3) to regulate the inter-State movement of plants so as to prevent the further spread of pests and diseases to new areas;
- (4) to regulate the import of natural enemies for the control of crop pests;
- (5) to collect, collate and disseminate information about the occurrence, spread and outbreaks of pests and diseases and to assist States in carrying out field operations;
- (6) to assist the States in improving the storage of food and seed grains and other agricultural commodities.

The following pages summarize briefly the progress made by the Directorate in recent years.



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