

Deputy Director of Agriculture

1738/C11.2

Gardener Island, soil sample

21.6.48.

SOIL SCIENCE IN FLI

THE EXPLANATION OF

BY L. E. SMYTHE

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As suggested I forward the result of a test for salinity of the Gardener Island soil sample received at this laboratory on the 28th May, 1948.

2. Soil Sample No. 946

or as  $\%$  Chlorine = 0.0005  $\%$   
NaCl = 0.00082  $\%$

Method: Chromate titration method. Accuracy  $\pm$  0.0005  $\%$   
C.S. Piper, "Soil and Plant Analysis" 1944, p.45

3. The salinity of the sample submitted is quite normal. Of course, it is not known just how representative this sample is. The sample arrived in very poor condition - it had been forwarded in a jute bag and most of the fine soil had been lost during transit. It appears that our soil sampling instructions forwarded to the W.P.H.C. last year had not been seen by the person who sampled the Gardener Island soil.

4. I suggest that in the case of further chemical work in connection with Gardener Island soils, that new soil samples be taken according to standard procedure. It may be that this problem be considered during the projected trip to the G.E.I. Colony? In that case the soil samples might be taken by ourselves.

5. Soil sampling instructions are given in the "Agricultural Journal" (Vol.18, No.4); December 1947 and our Librarian is able to supply reprints of the articles concerned.

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