

EAST AFR. PROT.

DESPATCH

13039

233

No. 13830

RECEIVED  
1905

No. 127  
1905  
April  
Special Page

(Subject)

Cotton.

The memo on experiments in cultivation of *Esquirol* has British Cotton Grow. Assoc. be asked to supply 100 lbs of typical cotton seeds of the

{ Mr. Butler (London)  
McKend <sup>27/4</sup> April 25

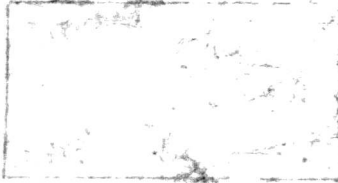
Copy to British Cotton Grow. Assoc.  
in answer, refer to their letter of 10/4/05  
I have with the doubtful whether  
the specimens of *Esquirol* seeds  
which are being sent to the  
cotton at the island station  
of Fort Hall, Madras  
Magyes where the cotton  
also has been to grow naturally  
except the island at neighbour  
land of the sea

27/4

at me.  
H. J. R.  
27/4

S-R

H. P. M. 1905



13379  
Recd  
Commissioner of Customs

Mombasa

234

April 3rd 1905.

500

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive the Marquess of Lansdowne's despatch No. 100 of February 23rd enclosing copies of correspondence which has passed between the Foreign Office and the British Cotton Growing Association relative to the promotion of the culture of cotton in this Protectorate.

In order to properly advance the objects which the Association has in view I have the honour to request that the Association may be asked to supply the Director of Agriculture with one hundred pounds of what are considered the typical cotton seeds of the world, as mentioned in the enclosed

Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies,

Downing Street,

London.

enclosed memorandum.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

J. Stewart

THE B. M. W. B. B. B.

No. 107

W. B. M. W. B. B. B. No. 100  
of the B. B. B. B.

Locking case.

Recessed

by the

Co. B. M. W. B. B. B.

by the

COPY

13373  
REC'D  
REG. OF AFRIC.

MEMORANDUM

256

The letter from the British Cotton Growing Association refers primarily to the suggestion of experiments in cotton growing to investigate:-

- (1) The best type of cotton for East Africa.
- (2) The best time to sow cotton in East Africa.
- (3) Other experiments such as manurial, etc., etc..

I would point out that our principal cotton station is at Malindi and that the cultivated land of this farm has been obtained through cutting out scrub at relatively great expense and that owing to labour and finance difficulties Mr. Brand has had to concentrate on one point. At Malindi last year we got a satisfactory crop from Egyptian cotton and as it is of the greatest importance that we should produce a supply of pure seed, this year only Egyptian cotton will be grown, it will however be planted at several periods although we have practically proved that early in April is the planting season.

Next year I hope to acquire a second piece of land near Malindi, on this land we will experiment with different varieties of cotton. To produce a pure cotton seed it is necessary that only one variety should be sown on the one acre.

At Malindi and Muzara we are this year sowing a typical Sea Island, Upland and Egyptian cotton.

I have supplied Mr. Jones, Kilindi, with Sea Island and Egyptian cotton; Mr. Fisher & Co, Fort Hall, with Upland, Sea Island and Egyptian.

The seasons in this country vary very considerably but it may be taken that most crops require to be sown at the beginning of the rains, and sowing cotton in the dry months is impossible for the seeds will not germinate.

With regard to the type of cotton best suited to the climate, as I have said, Egyptian has everywhere grown very well. Of course with natives and others ignorant of the methods of cultivation and with the present labour difficulties it is extremely difficult to sow and harvest at the proper times, such rather poor cotton will therefore be put on the market.

It would however be great help to me next year if the British Cotton Growing Association would supply me with say 500 lbs. of what are considered the typical cotton seeds of the world.

Manure and general experiments cannot be undertaken until our lands are more thoroughly brought under cultivation. At Nakinda, however, a certain amount of manure is being applied to the different varieties of cotton.

From the figures at my disposal I estimate the crop of cotton at from 1500 to 1800 lbs. per acre. The yield is certainly satisfactory but the average quality for various reasons is far from satisfactory. The cotton which is sent to the gin has evidently often been picked in a damp condition, and the abnormal fall of rain in December did much damage to the crop.

Yours faithfully,  
Jd/- Andrew Linton,

Director of Agriculture.