METEOROLOGICAL NOTES

By T. S. BALAKRIṢHṆAMURTI,

Research Assistant.

RAINFALL AND CROP FIGURES

THE following is a summary of the rainfall and crop figures for estates in five coconut-growing districts for the period May/June, 1951 :—

Table I

Third Crops

District or Town	Rainfall May	Rainfall June	Crop per palm 1950	Crop per palm 1951	Crop per acre 1950	Crop per acre 1951
Giriulla ...	6·64	3·70	13	14	813	864
Kudawewa ...	12·29	1·80	13	13	994	957
Lunuwila ...	18·55	2·17	17	17	1,048	1,072
Madampe	8·26	1·15	8	12	524	721
Tirukkovil ...	1·32	0·80	5	6	327	395

Giriulla.—The rainfall during May and June this year was almost the same as that during May and June last year. The return of nuts shows a slight increase.

Kudawewa.—May, 1951, had a heavier rainfall than May, 1950, while the rainfall in June this year was less than in June last year. The pick for this period was less than the pick for the same period last year.

Lunuwila.—This year the month of May experienced much heavier rainfall than May last year. June this year had a rainfall less than June last year. The crop for these two months show a slight increase over the crop for the corresponding months last year.

Madampe.—This year May experienced a heavier rainfall than May last year, while June had a rainfall less than June last year. The pick for these months was very much greater than the same pick last year.

Tirukkovil.—The rainfall during May this year has been more than during May last year. While June last year had no rain at all, June this year had a very small fall. The crop for these months this year show a slight increase over the crop for the same months last year.

Table II

Fourth Crops

District or Town	Rainfall July	Rainfall Aug.	Crop per palm 1950	Crop per palm 1951	Crop per acre 1950	Crop per acre 1951
Giriulla	8·51	nil	13	18	820	1,093
Kudawewa ...	8·57	0·09	15	14	1,109	1,034
Lunuwila	8·91	0·20	16	15	1,037	978
Madampe	10·00	nil	15	13	1,115	786
Tirukkovil ...	0·87	0·45	4	5	295	332

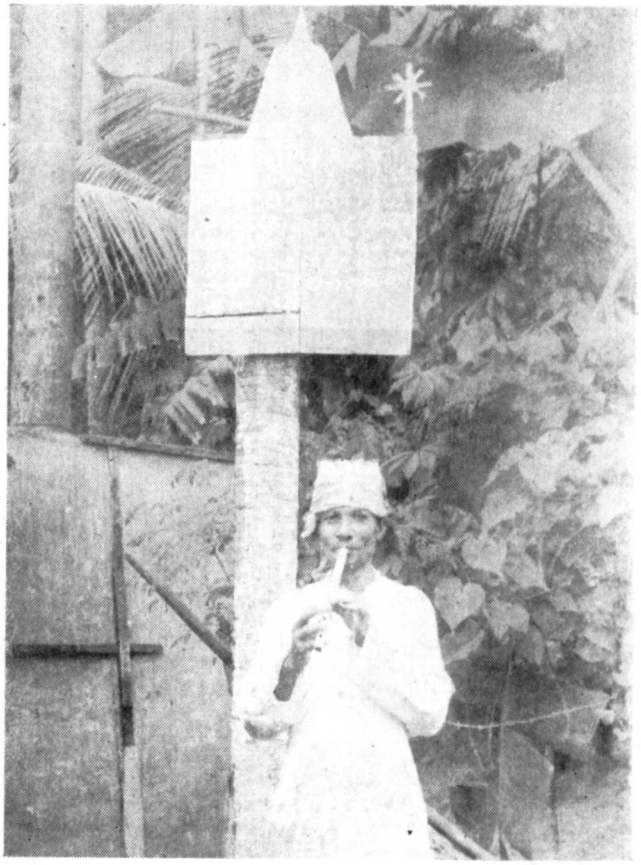
Giriulla.—In August this year the estate experienced no rainfall but the total rainfall for July-August this year exceeded the total rainfall during the same months last year. The crop for this period this year shows a very good increase over the crop for the same period last year.

Kudawewa.—More rain fell during July this year than during July last year. August was a dry month. The yield of nuts for these months was less than the yield for the same months last year.

Lunuwila.—The rainfall in July this year was more than double the rainfall in July, 1950. Though August had experienced a very small rainfall the total for these two months exceeded the total fall for the same months last year. The crop for this pick this year shows a drop from the crop for the same pick last year.

Madampe.—This year July experienced a very much heavier rainfall than July, 1950. August had no rainfall at all this year. The yield in nuts has fallen well below last year's yield for the same pick.

Tirukkovil.—Both last year and this year the rainfall in July was almost the same. August, 1950, had a heavier rainfall than August, 1951. The return in nuts shows a small increase over last year's returns for July-August.



WEATHER TO ORDER !

In Vol. 2 No. 2, page 111, a description was given of artificial methods of inducing rainfall. Here we see a rain-maker at work. He is Mr. B. R. M. Bandara of Madampe. Five minutes after this picture was taken, rain fell in torrents !

The following table gives a summary of the rainfall and crop figures for the first eight months of 1950 and 1951 :—

Table III

District or Town	Rainfall to-date		Crop to-date per acre	
	1950	1951	1950	1951
Giriulla	34·41	52·72	2,224	2,795
Kudawewa	22·22	44·63	3,127	3,335
Lunuwila	39·52	56·08	3,112	3,283
Madampe	18·27	41·26	2,772	3,869
Tirukkovil	26·66	62·95	934	1,247