

OUR ADVISORY SERVICE

RANGES OF THE ADVISORY FIELD OFFICERS

By LAURENCE FERNANDO,

Planting Officer.

THE Advisory Staff at present consists of only eight Advisory Field Officers whose operational ranges are as shown in the attached table. These ranges are based on the Divisional Revenue Officers Divisions, which arrangement is convenient for administrative purposes.

In the Northern and Eastern Provinces, the coconut growing acreages are very widely distributed and, due to this dispersion, the acreage for these ranges is very small indeed. Range 1 must remain vacant for the time being due to lack of funds to appoint sufficient officers to serve the vast acreage that is under coconuts (*i.e.* 1,100,000 acres).

The North Western Province is divided into four ranges. The Officer in charge of the Puttalam range will be required to relieve Officers in other ranges, who are absent through leave or sickness. The Officer of the Chilaw range will be stationed at Headquarters and in addition to his range duties, he will act as Reception Officer for visitors to the Institute; he will also supervise the Puttalam range during the temporary absence of the Officer in charge.

Owing to lack of staff, the whole of the Western Province, *i.e.* Ranges 8 and 9 will be worked by one Officer who will be stationed at Gampaha.

Scope of Work.—Their work is mainly concerned with giving advice on scientific agricultural methods to coconut growers based on the latest results of experiments conducted by the Institute.

They will work in co-operation with the Divisional Revenue Officers, Village Headmen, Coconut Producers' Co-operative Societies, Rural Development Societies, Co-operative Agricultural Production and Sales Societies, Village Committees and other Societies connected with the Coconut Industry in each of their ranges.

Coconut Producers, particularly the small-holders, are requested to contact the Advisory Field Officer nearest to them whenever necessary.

Further information can be obtained from the Director, Coconut Research Institute, Lunuwila.

| Range | Province | District | D.R.O's Division | Acreage | Range Acreage | Station |
|-------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|---------------|-------------------|
| 1 | N.P. | Jaffna Mannar Vavuniya | All Divisions | 24,000 | 24,000 | (Vacant) |
| 2 | E.P. | Batticaloa Trinco. | All Divisions | 21,000 | 21,000 | Batticaloa |
| 3 | N.W.P. | Puttalam | Puttalam Pattu and gravets Kalpitiya Demala Hatpattu P.K. North (North of Chilaw) | 30,000 10,000 4,000 17,000 | 61,000 | Mundel |
| 4 | N.W.P. | Chilaw | P.K. North (South of Chilaw) P.K. South | 20,000 35,000 | 55,000 | Bandirip- puwa |
| 5 | N.W.P. | Kurunegala | Wanni Hatpattu Hiriyala Hatpattu Weudawilli Hatpattu Dewamedu Hatpattu | 7,000 31,000 49,000 42,000 | 129,000 | Kurunegala |
| 6 | N.W.P. | Kurunegala | Katugampola Hat- pattu | 117,000 | 117,000 | Kuliyapitiya |
| 7 | N.W.P. and Sab. Prov. | Kurunegala and Kegalle | Dambadeni Hatpattu All Divisions | 51,000 64,000 | 115,000 | Polgahawela |
| 8 | W.P. | Colombo | Hapitigam Korale S. A.K. North (A) A.K. North (B) S.K. West—Meda- Pattu S.K. East | 26,000 19,000 37,000 24,000 38,000 | 144,000 | Gampaha |
| 9 | W.P. | Colombo | Alutkuru Korale S. A.K. Adikari Pattu Hewagam Korale Colombo Mudaliyar's Division Salpiti Korale Kalutara District | 9,000 14,000 20,000 3,000 7,000 31,000 | 84,000 | Gampaha |
| 10 | S.P. | Galle Matara Hambantota | All Divisions All Divisions All Divisions | 32,000 38,000 31,000 | 101,000 | Matara |