

**TERRITORY OF HAWAII. REPORT  
OF THE COMMISSIONER OF  
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
DECEMBER 31ST, 1900**

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Territory of Hawaii. Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry for the Year  
Ending December 31st, 1900 by Various

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**VARIOUS**

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TERRITORY OF HAWAII—

REPORT

OF THE

Commissioner of Agriculture

AND FORESTRY

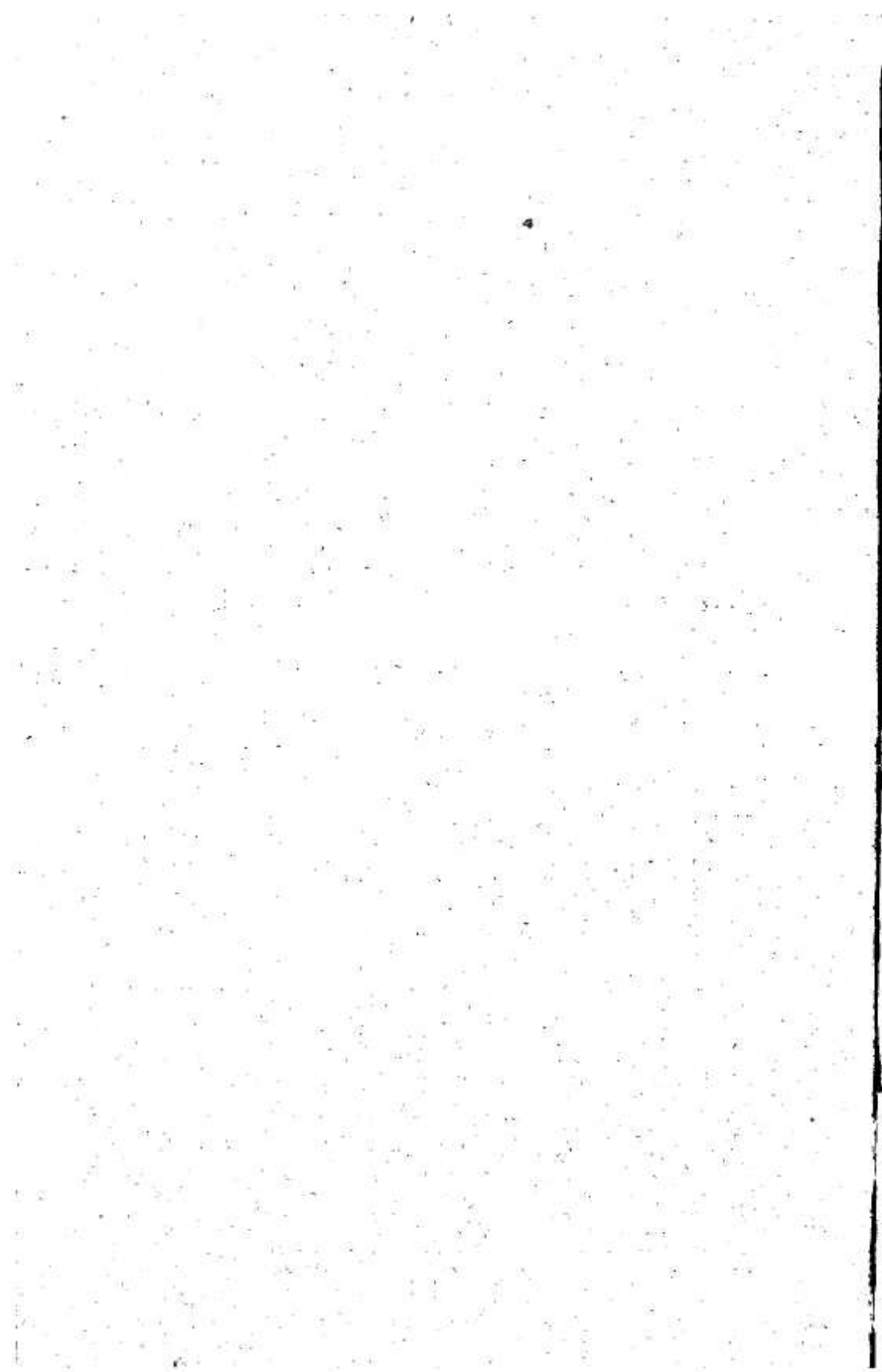
FOR THE

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1900

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1901



REPORT  
OF THE  
Commissioner of Agriculture and  
Forestry.

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HONOLULU, T. H., December 31, 1900.

HIS EXCELLENCY SANFORD B. DOLE,

Governor, Territory of Hawaii.

SIR:—I have the honor to submit the following report of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry for the year ending December 31, 1900. During the early part of the period, in fact up to June 13, the Board of Agriculture with its Secretary was in existence. On June 14 the "Act to Provide a Government for the Territory of Hawaii" did away with the Board, the Bureau and Commissioners, all being absorbed by a Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry; and to which position I was honored by your Commission on July 1st. The following day Mr. David Haughs was appointed Chief Forester.

At the latter end of July in answer to a request, I had the pleasure of forwarding to Mr. Gifford Pinchot,

Forester U. S. Department of Agriculture, a set of fifty photographs illustrating the Hawaiian forest growth, and other scenery, with a description of each picture, and which were acknowledged with thanks, and a set promised illustrating American forests. As this office is visited by numbers of tourists and steamer passengers, I set apart a room, and have made a collection of Hawaiian fruits in preservative, forest and other scenes, varieties of sugar cane, Hawaiian rice, fishes, seeds, shells, etc., and it seems to be quite attractive. I intend to add island woods, our different coffees and volcanic specimens. There are also a large number of books, pamphlets, etc., for reference for the general public, embracing many agricultural subjects.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture at Washington has been extremely thoughtful of this department in sending seeds, plants, etc., for general distribution among the islands. At various times we have received large consignments of different varieties of sorghum, white lupin, Egyptian Cotton, cowpea, jute, Daikon radish, muskmelon, etc. There was a large demand for the seeds and they were given away to those whom we know would plant them and give them careful attention, and further, report on them. Much difficulty has been experienced in getting people to plant some of these seeds. Take for instance the Lupin, it was well advertised that the department had it to give away, but the inquiries were only few. The Department at Washington were very anxious we should give it a trial as well as the Egyptian cotton. If the same interest taken in the cultivation of sugar cane could be extended to a few new in-



dustries, there would be a marked change in the agricultural prospects here. A consignment of kola seeds did not arrive in live condition.

The visit of Dr. William C. Stubbs, Director of the Louisiana Experiment Station, to Honolulu in July, was an important event in the agricultural history of Hawaii, coming as he did with instructions from the Honorable Secretary of Agriculture at Washington, to investigate the agricultural conditions in the islands with special reference to the establishment of an agricultural experiment station. Dr. Stubbs made only a brief stay but during that time, he consulted with representative residents of the islands prominently identified with the agricultural interests; and your Commissioner did everything possible to assist Dr. Stubbs in obtaining the desired information. In September, I received a letter from Dr. Stubbs in which he stated he had made his report to the President and Secretary recommending that an Experiment Station be located on the plat assigned by the Board of Agriculture in 1893 as a site for an Experiment Station. This tract containing about 222 acres, starts from behind Honolulu running up the Makiki Valley to an elevation of over a thousand feet. It is known as Kewalo-uka. The Doctor further stated he had recommended a Director be appointed. That done, he would take charge at once; clear the grounds, erect the buildings and get ready for the remainder of his staff. He further recommended that the Governor, Commissioner of Public Lands, and Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry be an Advisory Council to the Director. Up to the end of the period nothing further had been done.

The Board of Agriculture in 1893 did something towards starting an experiment station on a small scale, but nothing came of it, although money was appropriated for the work.

It is admitted that general prosperity depends absolutely upon agricultural prosperity. Director Truc is responsible for the statement "that an agricultural experiment station is an institution in which scientific and practical investigations are made with a view to improving the methods of introducing new crops or industries. The primary object of an experiment station is to apply scientific principles and methods to the problems of agriculture. It seeks to use for the benefit of agriculture the stores of knowledge regarding the operations of nature which science has accumulated, and to employ in the service of agriculture the trained brains and hands of scientists. The experiment station should institute investigations to increase accurate information regarding the great principles which underlie the growth of plants and animals, and to make new applications of well-known principles in the practical work of the farmer." That the establishment of this experiment station, long needed here, will be a boon to the agricultural interests of the Territory goes without saying. Once started, and in running order, the agricultural developments of the islands will make rapid advancement.

Dr. John G. Jones, Adviser to the Agricultural Department, Japan, was a visitor at this office on two occasions, and was kind enough to send us forest tree seeds and dry land rice from that country. A number of Japanese interested in agriculture in their own country called in to obtain information. We have also had many

visitors from the States, Canada, England and the Australian Colonies.

#### GOVERNMENT NURSERY.

Considerable improvement has been made at the Government Nursery, on King street. A new fence has been built entirely around the grounds and necessary repairs have been made to the house. It is from here that the distribution of plants, palms, shade and wind break trees is made to the general public, and for the beautifying of the Government School grounds. That this free distribution is a boon to the community is shown by the number distributed. By first obtaining an order from the office, the bearer is entitled to one, two, three, or more dozen of selected plants on condition that they are planted and well taken care of. A large number of new building lots have been opened out during the year, in and around Honolulu, and the Government, through its Nursery, has been able to assist people in beautifying them with trees and plants which are most suited to this tropical clime. Plants and trees have also been sent to the other islands. During the year the distribution has been as follows:

January .....	513
February .....	1,920
March .....	1,731
April .....	2,751
May .....	3,182
June .....	1,612
July .....	562
August .....	2,760