REPRINT AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION IN THE DUTCH EAST INDIES.

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ORGANIZATION UNDER PRIVATE CONTROL.

a characteristic feature of work concerned with agricultural development in the Netherlands East Indies is the extent to which private organizations of growers (largely Europeans) support agricultural research. This is a feature which should be borne constantly in mind. It is not too much to say that the acknowledged reputation of these colonies for research in tropical agriculture is based largely on the work that has been done on experiment stations supported and controlled by private enterprise. Until comparatively recently, the individual experiment stations were organized and supported by comparatively small organizations of planters formed, either on the basis of crops, or on geographical position. Within the last few years, however, a need for co-ordination of effort has been felt and this has led to the formation of large organizations controlling a number of separate stations. Thus the sugar industry, which formerly had three separate experiment stations controlled by three separate organizations, has now one organization for the control of all its experimental work. Similarly, all the experimental work done in Java on the so-called "mountain cultures" tea, coffee, rubber, and cinchona, which was formerly controlled by a number of different organizations is now under the control of the General Agricultural Syndicate. There are, however, still a number of experiment stations under the control of smaller organizations who have not joined the syndicate. Thus, the experiment station for Vorstenland tobacco at Klaten is supported by a comparatively small group of tobacco companies. The rubber-planters of East Sumatra, and the tobacco-planters of the province of Deli in Sumatra have each their own experiment The tobacco companies of Besoeki province (East Java) have retained their independence and partially support the experiment station at Djember in that province where valuable work on the improvement of tobacco is in progress.