

As a result about 22,880 lb of lint were produced in St. Kitts and 27,600 lb in Montserrat. A certain amount was also grown in Antigua, and Anguilla. In 1903-4 the output of cotton from the various islands was as follows:

Montserrat	70,000 lbs.
Nevis	28,449 "
Antigua	27,853 "
St. Kitts	24,197 "
Anguilla	1,661 "

The cotton on the whole was favourably reported upon and the price obtained averaged 1s 1d per lb. In 1904 cotton was more extensively planted in the various islands, and additional attention was given to machinery.

The approximate acreage planted, and the amount of cotton produced may be tabulated as follows:

St. Kitts	1,050 acres	76,899 lbs.
Nevis	1,000 "	144,721 "
Montserrat	600 "	70,723 "
Anguilla	450 "	54,016 "
Antigua	400 "	30,977 "
Barbuda	60 "	

The cotton in St. Kitts was planted partly as a "catch crop" with sugar cane the cotton was of superior quality to that previously grown, and realized an average price of 1s 2d per lb. Small quantities sold at 1s 4d per lb, whilst a large part of the crop fetched 1s 3d.

Whilst cotton is a new crop to the islands artificial manures are not necessary, but this condition may not last for long. The cotton seed should be used as food for stock and its valuable fertilizing constituents thus returned to the soil as manure.

Cultivation was again extended in 1905, and in Nevis and Montserrat it has become the primary industry of the island. Sugar is still extensively grown in Antigua and St. Kitts, and the cotton is there of secondary importance.

In Anguilla the exports, previous to the introduction of cotton, have only amounted to a few hundred pounds, whereas, as a result of its last crop, cotton to the value of over £ 1,500 was shipped and with good fortune this may reach a much higher value.

Insect and fungoid pests have given considerable trouble, notably the cotton worm (*Aletia argillacea*), and the leaf blister mite (*Eriophyes gossypii*). A disease called 'black boll', the cause of which is unknown has also appeared.

W. G. Freeman.

Personalnachrichten.

Ernannt: Dr. **W. Zopf**, o. Prof. u. Director des bot. Inst. d. Univ. Münster i. W. zum Geheimen Regierungsrath.

Gestorben: Prof. **J. Poirault**, à Poitiers, Prof. **Ch. Fr. Schlagdenhauffen**, Dr. **L. Fischer** à Berne, Dr. **Fr. Krasan** à Graz.

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