

A LICHEE TREE AT GOULDS

W. O. Talbott, Goulds

I received a small Lichee tree from the government along about 1915 and the tree has grown to a height of about twenty some feet and has a spread of about twenty feet, making a beautiful tree. I have fertilized this tree with the same fertilizers that I used on my citrus trees.

I think the tree was about fifteen years old before it bore any fruit but after that age it has borne some fruit about every year but not much of a crop until last year when it had, I presume, about three hundred fruit.

The fruit matured very nicely and was of very fine eating quality. The cold weather in Decem-

ber did not seem to hurt the tree at all but it does not seem that it is going to bloom much at present.

The tree makes a beautiful ornamental, but I do not see very great possibility of its fruiting regularly.

Last year I carried a branch with perhaps fifteen or eighteen fruit to Dr. Fairchild at Coconut Grove and he was very much interested in it and he told me he was going to take a picture of it so if the Doctor is present at your meeting he can tell you lots about the Lichee.

DEVELOPMENTS IN PINEAPPLE PRODUCTION ON THE LOWER EAST COAST OF FLORIDA

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Cold damage to pineapples occurring in the freeze of December, 1934, was largely confined to plantings north of West Palm Beach, both along the coast and the inland sections in Martin and Highlands Counties. The damage was severe enough in these areas to preclude the possibility of a crop for this season, while plantings in Palm Beach and Broward Counties escaped with little damage and a satisfactory crop of fruit is in prospect. Particular reference will be made in this paper to the trend that has developed in the last five years toward the production of pineapples on flatwood soils, and the opportunity offered for the protection of the crop from cold weather by the use of irrigation water when they are grown on this soil type.

The history of the pineapple industry in Florida

has been that the Smooth Cayenne and Abbaka varieties were much better adapted to flatwoods soils than the ridge soils, or deep sands, where the Red Spanish variety was generally grown. The productive life of the first mentioned varieties was very short on the ridge soils, even when grown under shade, and a virtual failure when grown in open. On the other hand, these varieties would remain productive on flatwoods lands, and usually the hardpan phases of these soils, for several years. In the writer's opinion, the moisture supply in the ridge soils fluctuated too much to maintain vigorous growth in these varieties.

The Red Spanish variety developed satisfactory production on these ridge soils, and established unusual records for the number of profitable crops