J. Rubb. Res. Inst. Malaya, Vol. 11 Communication 260—Experiments with Economic Tapping Systems (2). Alternate-daily Periodic Tapping of Mature Seedling Rubber, Parts I and II. by R. Scott Russell and Evan R. Guest.

Part I

1. Five tapping experiments were undertaken in 1938 to investigate the response to "A.B.C." tapping of mature seedling rubber trees of different types. This investigation is designed to extend the work carried out by Sharp (1934-38) and described in the first series of papers on economic tapping systems.

2. The tapping systems compared in each experiment are:

C/2,d/2,100% (Control)
C/2,d/2,4m/6,67%
C/2,d/2,8m/12,67%
C/2,d/2,12m/18,67%

3. The sites and field layout of the experiments are described.

Part II

1. The records for the first two years of the investigation, November 1938 to October 1940, are presented and discussed.

2. The principal effects of "A.B.C." tapping are:—

(a) The periodic systems have resulted in increased yield per tapping. Thus the loss in crop has been less than the reduction in tapping intensity.

(b) The extent of the effect and the rapidity with which it appears is dependent on the condition and yield level of the trees. The response is greatest in the lowest yielding areas.

(c) In the first year the average loss of crop was 102 pounds per acre. The extent of the loss varied from 62 pounds per acre in the lowest yielding areas to 169 pounds per acre in the highest yielding area.

(d) In the second year the average loss of crop was 28 pounds per acre and the lowest yielding areas showed an apparent though not significant, increase in overall yield due to periodic tapping.

(e) Differences between the effects of the three periodic systems are not significant.