SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

1. A spacing and fertiliser trial comparing two varieties of cabbage, Charleston Wakefield and Succession, was conducted in Trinidad in the year 1958-1959. Four spacings (12" x 12", 15" x 15", 18" x 18" and 24" x 24") and two levels of each of sulphate of ammonia and triple superphosphate were used. Sulphate of ammonia was applied at the rate of 0 and 4 cwts per acre and triple superphosphate at 0 and 2 cwts.

The experiment was extremely successful.

2. Higher yields per unit area were obtained from the closer spacings of Cabbage. Marketable yields of the closer spacings (12" x 12", 15" x 15" and 18" x 18") were significantly higher than that of the widest one (24" x 24"). No significant result was found between the three closer spacings.

3. Significant response to nitrogen was found in the marketable yields per unit area but there was no response to phosphorus.

The interaction between nitrogen and closer spacings was highly significant.

4. Yields per plant decreased with plant density and the largest cabbage heads were produced in the widest spacing.

5. Besides yields, spacing also affected percentage of marketable heads, and the time to maturity. A hundred percent of cabbage plants at the wider spacings (18" x 18" and 24" x 24") reached maturity. A small percentage of plants in the closer spacings failed to form heads at all. Early maturity occurred in the wider spacings and in the close spacings maturity was delayed.
6. No obvious difference was found in the percentage of waste (outer leaves) between all treatments of variety Succession, but in the variety Charleston Wakefield the closest spacing gave the highest percentage of such waste. Also, the application of N and P produced more outer leaves than that of the other fertiliser treatments.

7. In comparing the two varieties, no statistical differences were found in marketable yields per both unit area and plant. However, Charleston Wakefield was found more superior to Succession in early maturity, tolerance to closer spacings, higher percentage of marketable heads, less percentage of waste and produced more compact and solid heads.