DEPRESSION OF CHECK-ROW YIELDS BY ADJOINING HIGH YIELDING PLOT ROWS IN POTATOES

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That competition occurs in adjacent plots of potatoes has been established by Meyers and Perry (3) and by Stewart (4 and 5), although the work of Brown (1) indicates that under certain conditions, at least, yields are not appreciably influenced by competition between one row plots. In this connection, Meyers and Perry note that “with respect to the effect of competition in potatoes, there is very little to be found in the literature.” In some recent work by the writer, some harvest weights were obtained in such a manner as to give a little further evidence on this point. Since the work will not be continued along the same lines, in the future, it seems best to report the results at the present time.

METHODS USED

The work under consideration was an experiment dealing with size of potato seed piece laid out in cooperation with one of the leading potato growers near Farmingdale, N. J., in which it seemed desirable to use single row plots with check plots on either side. Four sizes of seed piece, one-half ounce, one ounce, one and one-half ounce, and two ounce, were used. Each row was 570 feet in length and trimmed at harvest to 500 feet. Plots were replicated to give three rows of each size, making twelve plot-rows and thirteen check-rows. Plants were spaced thirteen inches apart in thirty three-inch rows and all rows fertilized with the regular fertilizer distributor, using the same

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2Agronomist.

3Reference by number is to “Literature Cited,” p. 635.