THE COMPOSITION AND QUALITY OF MEXICAN WHEATS
AND WHEAT FLOURS.

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INTRODUCTION.

These investigations were instituted in this laboratory under the writer's direction during the winter of 1912-13 by J. L. Burt, then a special student in the College of Agriculture of this University. Mr. Burt's business interests in Mexico led him to collect these samples in the States of Jalisco and Sonora. He found it necessary to return to Mexico before the work was completed, however, and the remaining tests and analyses were completed so far as was possible and the data tabulated by the writer. The unsettled condition of that Republic has since made correspondence difficult and not as much is known concerning the exact source and character of certain of the samples as is desirable, but it is believed that the data at hand will prove of sufficient interest to justify its publication, even though in a somewhat incomplete manner.

WHEAT GROWING IN JALISCO AND SONORA.

The state of Jalisco borders on the west coast of Mexico, and is one of the group of states ranking highest in wheat production. The map showing graphically the production of wheat in Mexico for 1899-1900, prepared by the Mexican National Commission to the St. Louis Exposition, shows the States of Jalisco, Sonora, Coahuila, Aguascalientes and Michoacan to have produced an average of 100 to 1,000 kilograms per square kilometer, being exceeded in this regard only by Guanajuato, Queretaro, Mexico, and Puebla, which produced an average of 1,000 to 2,572 kilograms per square kilometer.

According to Mr. Burt, the weather in Jalisco is usually hot and dry during April and May and the rains fall during July, August, and September, while in Sonora, which is farther north, June, July, August, and September are hot and dry, the rains beginning at the end of this period of drought. The wheat fields of Jalisco are principally on high plateaus at an elevation of 5,000 to 6,000 feet, while those of Sonora are about 600 to 800 feet above sea level.