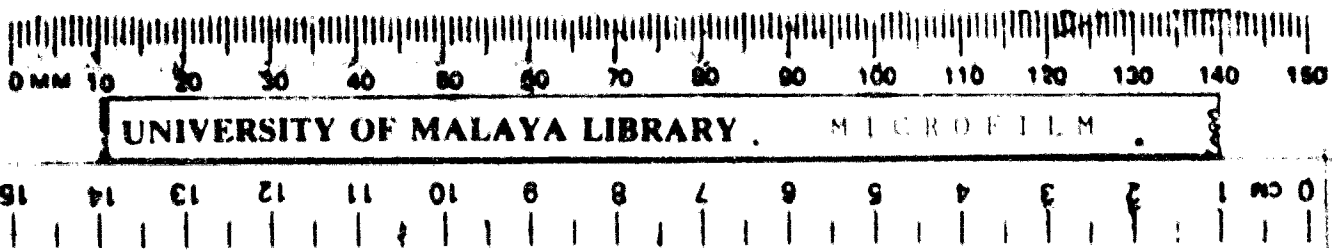


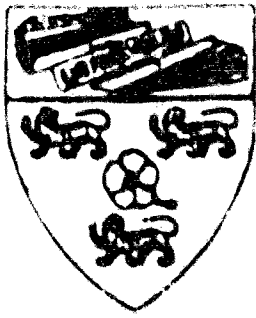
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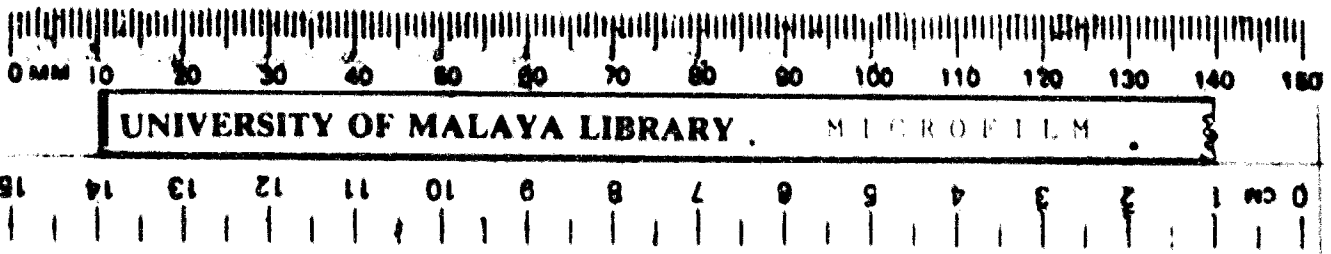
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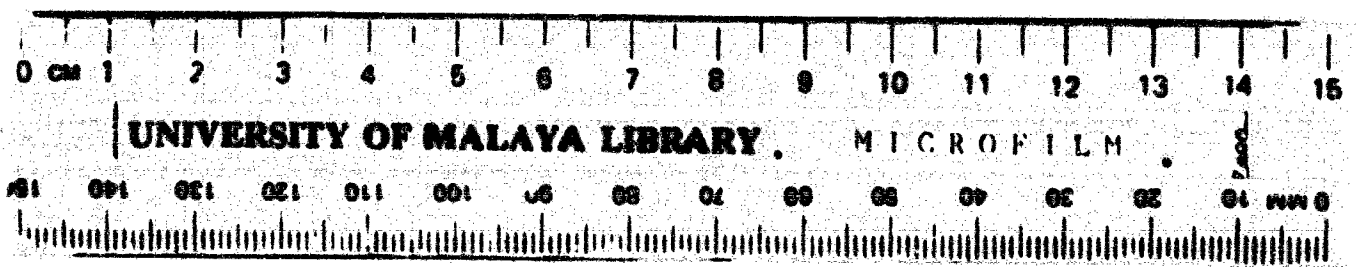


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TANJONG KARANG SURVEY - PHASE III
ECONOMIC SURVEY OF SAWAH SEMPADAN
A STUDY OF BLOCK Q

by

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A Graduation Exercise presented to
the University of Malaya in
part fulfilment towards the
Degree of Bachelor of Arts
with Honours in Economics

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Chapter		Page
V.	CASES OF CO-OWNERSHIP	17
	"Co-ownership" as Applied to Block Q	17
	Cases of Co-ownership.	17
	Types of Operators of Co-owned Land	18
VI.	ANALYSIS OF THE LOCATION OF PIECES	20
	Location of Component Pieces of Holdings and Farms	20
	Location of Component Pieces	21
VII.	OWNERS IN THE LAND OFFICE RECORDS AND OWNERS ON THE GROUND	22
	Legal and Actual Owners	22
VIII.	PADI OUTPUT AND PRODUCE IN BLOCK Q	24
	Padi Output by Types of Operators	24
	Padi Output by Variety of Padi	24
	Padi Output by Location in Block	27
IX.	PEST INCIDENCE IN BLOCK Q	29
	Pest Incidence by Farmers Affected	29
	Pest Incidence by Area Affected	29
	Pest Incidence by Variety of Padi Affected	30
X.	VIEWS REGARDING WATER SUPPLY IN BLOCK Q	32
	Water Supply by Farms & Location of Farms	32
	Water Supply by Area Supplied	33
XI.	OTHER CROPS IN BLOCK Q	34
	Crops Other than Padi in Block Q	34
XII.	GENERAL OBSERVATIONS OF BLOCK Q	36
Appendix		
I.	Holding Map	38
	Holding List	39
II.	Farm Map	43
	Farm List	44

8.3	Padi Output Per Acre in Block Q by Location in Block	28
9.1	Pest Incidence in Block by Farmers Affected 1963/1964	29
9.2	Pest Incidence in Block Q by Area Affected 1963/1964	30
9.3	Pest Incidence in Block Q by Padi Variety Affected 1963/1964	31
10.1	Supply of Water by Farms and Location in Block 1963/1964	32
10.2	Supply of Water in Block Q by Area Supplied 1963/1964	33
11.1	Other Crops than Padi in Block Q 1963/1964. . .	34

LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
2.1	Distribution of Holdings by Lots & Sub-lots 1963/1964	5
2.2	Distribution of Holdings by Area in Acres 1963/1964	6
2.3	Distribution of Farms by Lots and Sub-lots	7
2.4	Distribution of Farms by Area 1963/1964	9
3.1	Distribution of Owners by Place of Residence 1963/1964.	10
3.2	Distribution of Operators by Place of Residence 1963/1964.	11
3.3	Type of Operators 1963/1964	12
4.1	Distribution of Fragmented Holdings 1963/1964	14
4.2	Breakdown of Fragmented Holdings	15
4.3	Distribution of Fragmented Farms 1963/1964.	16
4.4	Breakdown of Fragmented Farms	16
5.1	Cases of Co-ownership 1963/1964	18
5.2	Types of Operators of Co-owned Land 1963/1964	19
6.1	Location of Component Pieces of Holdings & Farms 1963/1964.	20
6.2	Holdings and Farms by Location of Component Pieces 1963/1964.	21
7.1	Legal Owners and Actual Owners in Block Q 1963/1964	22
8.1	Padi Output Per Acre in Block Q by Types of Operators	25
8.2	Padi Output Per Acre in Block Q by Variety of Padi	26

LIST OF DIAGRAM

Diagram	Page
1. Division and Subdivision of Block Q for Analysis by Location of Pieces	27

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Objective of Study

A farm survey of Sawah Sempadan, Tanjong Karang, Selangor, was conducted on the 25th April to the 6th May, 1964 by the Economics Department of the University of Malaya. Every surveyor was given one block to investigate. This exercise relates to Block Q. In this block there were 104 Lots. These lots are numbered horizontally. Incidentally, only 95 lots were investigated. It was noted that all the 104 lots had been cultivated with padi in the 1963/64 crop year. Again, of the 104 lots, there were dwellings on 65. The dwellings are either permanent or seasonal.

The purpose of the survey was to examine the relationship of ownership and operation in the blocks in Sawah Sempadan. The questionnaires also sought information about the varieties of padi planted, the yield, the incidence of pests, the water supply and the other crops grown. The survey forms the third phase of a series of surveys in Sawah Sempadan, aimed at making a study of the area from a number of angles.

Definition of Terms

The terms used in connection with land ownership and operation in this discourse is defined in the "Subdivision of Rubber Estates in Malaya, 1951-1960" Volume I (1962) by Ungku Aziz. The definition is found in the following sections: Introduction, Chapter VI and General Appendix VII.

A "piece" of land is defined as one ^{undivided} individual area of any size which is defined or described in a document of ownership or title. This document may be a grant, an Entry in the Mukim Register or a Temporary Occupation Licence. These titles are registered according to State laws. Land Office records designated each piece as a "lot".

In the absence of boundary stones the pieces have landmarks such as fruit trees, bunds or bends in a stream. A padi farmers piece of land is often well demarcated by the bunds. Every farmer knows his boundaries.

Each piece of land must have an owner, who may or may not be the operator of the piece.

A "holding" is a unit of ownership and it may consist of one to any number of pieces. They may be contiguous or scattered. A holding may be of any size. The owner may be the cultivator of the piece or may not. If he is not then the operator may be (a) a member of the family, (b) a worker who receives a wage from the owner or (c) a tenant paying a rental to the owner.

"Ownership" is a legal term denoting possession of a piece of land. A holding is a unit of ownership.

"Operation" indicates that a person is farming the land to raise an output. It is an economic term. The concept of operation introduces us to the "farm".

A "farm" is any active unit of production based on land and may also be of any size, that is, consist of any number of pieces of land. They may again be scattered or contiguous. The farmer may divide any of his pieces into several fields. The boundaries of the farm are clear in his mind. The farm may be operated by the owner himself, by paid labour, labour paying rent to the landlord, or family labour which may either be paying rent, receiving wages or working free of both. Hence the farmer or operator may or may not own the land he operates. In fact, the farmer may not even farm his own holding; he may rent in the land he works and rent out the land he owns.

The patterns of ownership and operation undergo such change through time. The original holding may be sold wholly or in part to pay a debt, or may be given in part as a gift, or may be inherited by the family on the death of the owner.

"Subdivision" is the physical division of single pieces of land into several pieces, or conversely, it is the process whereby pieces of land become smaller and smaller through time. The first division is "primary subdivision", the next "secondary" and so on. If only a part of a piece is subdivided, it is "partial subdivision". "Pseudo-subdivision" occurs where in truth no real division of the unit of ownership into new ownership units takes place, only legally and in appearance, the appearance is ordinary subdivision. "Concealed subdivision" happens where persons effect a land transfer to themselves as joint owners having undivided shares with intention of subdividing the piece into separate single-name titles at a later date. But generally, boundaries denoting ownership of specific parts of the land will be recognised. Only in the eyes of the Land Office will the ownership be joint with undivided shares.

When there is ^(de facto) or on the ground subdivision, in which two or more owners share a common title to a piece of land purchased with their names on the title as joint owners but in actual fact operate well demarcated portions of the land, we have the situation of "co-ownership".

When there is no clearly-marked boundary and each person owns an undivided share in the title, it is a case of "joint-ownership". The cost of production and profits are shared proportionately to the share of ownership. Any member may sell part or all of his share but cannot claim any particular area as his own.

When a person effects pseudo-subdivision which gives a legal status of separate existence to a number of pieces which in practice are still operated as a single unit of ownership, we have "complex co-ownership".

Where pieces of land of particular farms are scattered about, we have the situation of "fragmentation". But the pieces must be scattered about in such a manner that, because of distance or impeded mobility or both, operation of the pieces becomes uneconomical.

Having defined the terms and concepts that appear in the essay, we can now start our analysis.

CHAPTER II

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLDINGS AND FARMS

In this chapter, we will be looking at the distribution of the holdings and farms in Block Q. We shall observe the distribution from the number of lots and sub-lots which make up the holdings and farms within the block, within Sawah Sempadan and outside Sawah Sempadan. Secondly, we shall tabulate the holdings and farms according to their area in acre-intervals.

Distribution of Holdings by Lots and Sub-lots

The total of 95 lots interviewed in Block Q consists of 99 holdings. The holdings are made up of lots and sub-lots in the block, in Sawah Sempadan and outside Sawah Sempadan. Only Block Q consists of lots and sub-lots. The other two areas comprise only lots. The sub-lots in Block Q are all half-lots and are the result of subdivided ownership which gives rise to co-ownership.

The Table 2.1 tabulates the holdings according to the number of their component pieces in the three areas shown. Approximate percentages are also given having been calculated to two decimal places. It will be seen that of the total of 99 holdings, 26 units are made up of only one lot, in Block Q, 26 of only one sub-lot, in Block Q, and 18 of one lot in Block Q and one lot outside Sawah Sempadan. The remaining 29 holdings are made up of various combinations of non-Sawah Sempadan lots and/or Sawah Sempadan lots with Block Q lots and/or Block Q sub-lots as can be seen in Table 2.1. Sixty holdings or about 60% of the total of 99 holdings consist of only pieces in Block Q, the 39 or about 40% are made up of varying combinations of pieces in the three areas mentioned.

Thus more than half of the total holdings are owned by persons who, as they stated in the interviews, hold no other lands. The rest, that is, 39 owners, held lands outside Block Q previously, or at least at the time of the interview. However, it has emerged from the survey that not all the owners, or operators for that matter remain the same in some cases. In fact, the survey revealed that the patterns of ownership and operation have undergone some changes since the Sawah Sempadan scheme was (just) inaugurated. These changes will be seen in subsequent chapters. ^{first}

Distribution of Holdings by Acre-Intervals

Having studied the distribution of holdings by their

TABLE 2.1

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLDINGS BY LOTS AND SUB-LOTS
1963/1964

In Block Q		In S.S.	Outside S.S.	Number of Holdings	% of Total (approx.)
Lots	Sub-lots	Lots	Lots		
1	-	-	-	26	26.06
1	-	-	1	18	18.18
1	-	-	2	1	1.01
1	-	1	-	5	5.05
1	-	1	1	4	4.04
1	-	2	1	1	1.01
1	-	3	-	1	1.01
1	1	-	-	4	4.04
1	1	-	1	1	1.01
2	-	-	-	4	4.04
2	1	-	1	2	2.02
3	1	-	1	1	1.01
-	1	-	-	26	26.06
-	1	-	1	5	5.05
-	-	Total	-	99	100.00

component pieces and the situations of the latter, let us now see the relative areas in acres of the holdings. In Table 2.2, the areas of the units of land owned have been tabulated in intervals of one acre and the frequency of holdings of various sizes set against them. The holding sizes are obtained by adding up the acreages of the component pieces of each holding. The acreage figures are taken from the records in the Land Office. Most of

*Percentage figures in all tables are approximate.