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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENTOMOLOGIST 1909/1910

T S E T S E F L Y

Tsetse Fly Investigations: These have been considered the most important part of the technical work of the office. An endeavour was made early in the year to obtain an experiment station at Gatooma for the purpose of investigating the possibility of transmitting Trypanosomiasis by the bites of Fly other than Tsetse, but the expenditure was not sanctioned although the desirability of information on this point is admitted by all authorities. An application for this station is not being renewed at present, as on his failure to obtain the appropriation for this purpose, the writer took up the work of studying the bionomics of the Tsetse Fly, and is unable, without an increase of staff, to attend to the two matters at the same time. Investigations have therefore been made in the field with a view to increasing our knowledge of the breeding and other habits of Glossina morsitans, and its relationship to big game and to the physical conditions and vegetation of the country, and "fly belts" in various parts of the country have been visited. These trips have been reported on in detail to the Director of Agriculture.

The following absences from headquarters have been due to Tsetse Fly during the year. (1) January 29th to February 21st, near Gatooma and Hartley. (2) March 29th to April 11th, near Gatooma and Umsweswe River. (3) May 11th to June 2nd at Shangani River, Sebungwe District. (4) September 21st to October 16th below the Escarpment in Lomagundi. (5) November 5th to November 9th at Surisuri river in Hartley district. (6) November 23rd to December 14th at Sakugwe and Umniati Rivers on border Hartley district.

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