

6. Is there any experience on a practical scale elsewhere than in the West Indies, indicating clearly that control of *Dysdercus* suffices for the control of internal boll diseases?
7. Is there any experience to the contrary?
8. Have any of the delegates any experience of serious shedding of young bolls in the field clearly attributable to invasion by *Dysdercus*?
9. Have such troubles as irregular development of lint in the bolls and failure of the latter to open normally been noted as of serious importance in the field? If so, have these troubles been traced definitely to the agency of *Dysdercus*?
10. Has *Dysdercus* been associated anywhere with injury to cotton seed on such a scale as seriously to affect the quantity of suitable seed available for sowing, and to render a large proportion of the seed useless for crushing?

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Fuller) stated that he was in considerable sympathy with the paper, as he thought that *Dysdercus* got the blame for staining, for which it was not responsible.

Mr. HAINES (contributed). In South Africa it is questionable how much lint-staining is caused by *Dysdercus* spp. We are more concerned, at present, in the part *Dysdercus* plays in the spreading of plant diseases, especially boll-rots. Since our attention has been given mainly to a study of the boll worms, we have little definite information in regard to stainers. Stainers fluctuate in abundance from year to year, and are rarely abundant until late in the season. A few years ago *Dysdercus supersticiosus* was common, but now *Dysdercus nigrofasciatus* and *Dysdercus fasciatus* appear to be the more common species. There appears to be considerable lint-staining due to infections following bollworm attacks.

After discussion it was agreed:

*That the status of suctorial insects in the spread of boll-rot requires much more investigation before any definite statements can be made. The problem is the more difficult, owing to the fact that the boll-rots have not yet been classified.

* Subsequently amended. See pages 172 and 178.