

students remained more or less the same by 1943-1944.

Agricultural research was done by the government's Department of Agriculture and by Jewish European institutions. However, the work done by the latter was more extensive and had access to more resources than that of the government's research departments.⁴⁸

It is clear from the substantial growth in Jewish European agricultural schools and the establishment of research institutions that Zionist bodies attached great importance to them. The rationale for this was the fact that the great majority of settlers came from the urban areas of central and eastern Europe and thus had no farming experience. The agricultural institutions provided support in each step of the process in establishing a settlement.

These institutions assist the settlements with the preparation of plans for establishing the settlement, the lay-out, design and construction of buildings, acquisition of livestock and machinery, advice on crop rotation, methods of sowing, planting, harvesting, control of pests and diseases and farm management generally.⁴⁹

Thus, the gap in the development of agricultural skills is easily accounted for: While the settler agricultural community had the extensive support of Zionist institutions as well as benefiting from some of the government's programs, only some of the Arab peasants could have benefited from the very limited support provided by religious bodies and the government. The government's scant support

⁴⁸For more information on the nature of the research done, see Brown, "Agriculture," 191-9.

⁴⁹*Survey I*, 379.