

### Greater Use of Pest Control

Crop pests include injurious insects, diseases, and weeds. There are three general methods for controlling insects: (1) by the use of insecticides; (2) by the introduction of noninjurious insects which prey upon the injurious ones; and (3) by planting insect-resistant varieties. Each of these methods will, no doubt, have a place in West Pakistan. The first method, and to some extent the third method, can be utilized immediately for increasing crop yields, while the second requires some time to build up the population of the introduced insect.

As indicated in the section entitled "Improved Seed," plant diseases are generally most effectively controlled through the use of disease-resistant varieties. There are places where chemicals can be used to great advantage, however, as in the treatment of seeds for control of seed-borne diseases.

A wide variety of chemical weed killers is now available, but with an adequate supply of farm labor, hand and cultivation methods should probably constitute the principal means of weed control for the immediate future.

### Improved seed

As used here, improved seed means better adapted, higher yielding varieties, as well as planting material which is genetically uniform, of high purity, and free from disease. In most cases, it also means varieties which are resistant to plant diseases and other pests. Better varieties of some crops have been developed to some extent within the Province, but, in many cases, they need to be made available to farmers. With other crops, it will be desirable to introduce better varieties from other countries, and to increase and disseminate the seed. Wheat varieties should be selected for higher yielding capacity, and resistance to rust, smut, and the saw fly; sugar cane varieties should be selected for resistance to red rot, mosaic, ratoon stunting, smut, and the cane borer, as well as for higher yielding capacity; higher yielding and borer-resistant "hard straw" varieties of rice should be substituted for the presently grown "soft straw" varieties; and cotton varieties better adapted to high temperatures should be selected, if possible.

Estimates by the Planning Commission of Pakistan of the increased yields to be expected from plant protection measures and use of better seeds already