

California. Table 6.3 indicates the degree of tolerance of some of these crops to soil salinity. Several varieties of melons and many vegetables show excellent or good adaptability to climate and soils and are tolerant, or moderately tolerant of high soil salt concentrations. The vegetables include carrots, lettuce, onions, peppers, summer and winter squash, asparagus, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, peas, spinach, and tomatoes. Among fruit crops, dates, grapes, pomegranates, figs and olives are excellently or fairly well adaptable to the climatic conditions, and tolerant or moderately tolerant of soil salts. Grapefruits, oranges, lemons, limes, apricots, peaches and plums are excellently to fairly adaptable to climate, but are sensitive to soil salts. Other fruits and nuts found to be adaptable to the climate include mulberries, loquats, pecans, persimmons, strawberries, and tangerines. Winter and spring vegetables and fruits for urban markets and for export are major products from the former desert valleys in California. They could form the basis of highly promising and potentially rich agricultural development in Former Sind.

Forest Products.

There are good prospects of profitable returns from increased forest production and from better forest land management in West Pakistan. Per capita consumption of wood is among the lowest in the world (0.7 cu ft vs. 72.3 cu ft in the U.S.), even though there is a strong demand for wood as a building material and as a fuel. In addition, forests are important: (a) as a factor in helping to reduce soil erosion on slopes, thus preserving soils and reducing silt loads in rivers, and (b) as windbreaks for other agricultural crops. In many areas, forestry enterprises have the additional advantage that they take few resources from other types of agricultural production. For example, a number of very salt-tolerant trees and shrubs could be grown on saline lands unfit for other uses.

Dairy Products:

The possibility of starting dairy belts in rural areas at some distance from other cities should be investigated. There is an increasing demand for milk at the present time (milk, which is often diluted, sells for about Rs 0.3 per lb.), although the lack of refrigeration and transportation