

3 SAMPLING PLOTS

For this investigation, five plots were chosen, of which three (plots 1109, 1111 and H 336) are in Section 3 B while the other two (117 and 116) are situated in Section 2 (fig. 1). The three plots of Section 3 B are situated high up on a mountain slope.

Plot 1109 (plate 1) was the control plot. Apart from being separated from the other two plots by a small road, it differs mainly from them in that it has no citrus on it, but only natural vegetation. On the sampling place Eragrostis curvula was the dominant species of grass, with sporadic tufts of a Panicum species in between. In the immediate surroundings were lots of young trees (Acacia sp.) and occasional bushes of Strychnos sp. Plot 1109 will also be referred to as plot A.

Plots 1111 (plate 2) and H 336 (plate 3) are about a hundred yards lower down the slope. The former had citrus trees on it for at least forty years, while H 336 had a natural vegetation until 1957. The old trees on plot 1111 were removed and both plots were planted with young citrus trees in 1957, which were in the beginning of the fruit-bearing stage during the sampling period. Plot 1111 and H 336 will also be referred to as plot B and C respectively.

From Section 2 plots 117 (plate 4) and 116 (plate 5) were selected because of their experimental value. Plot 117 is a biological control plot, which received no chemical spray-

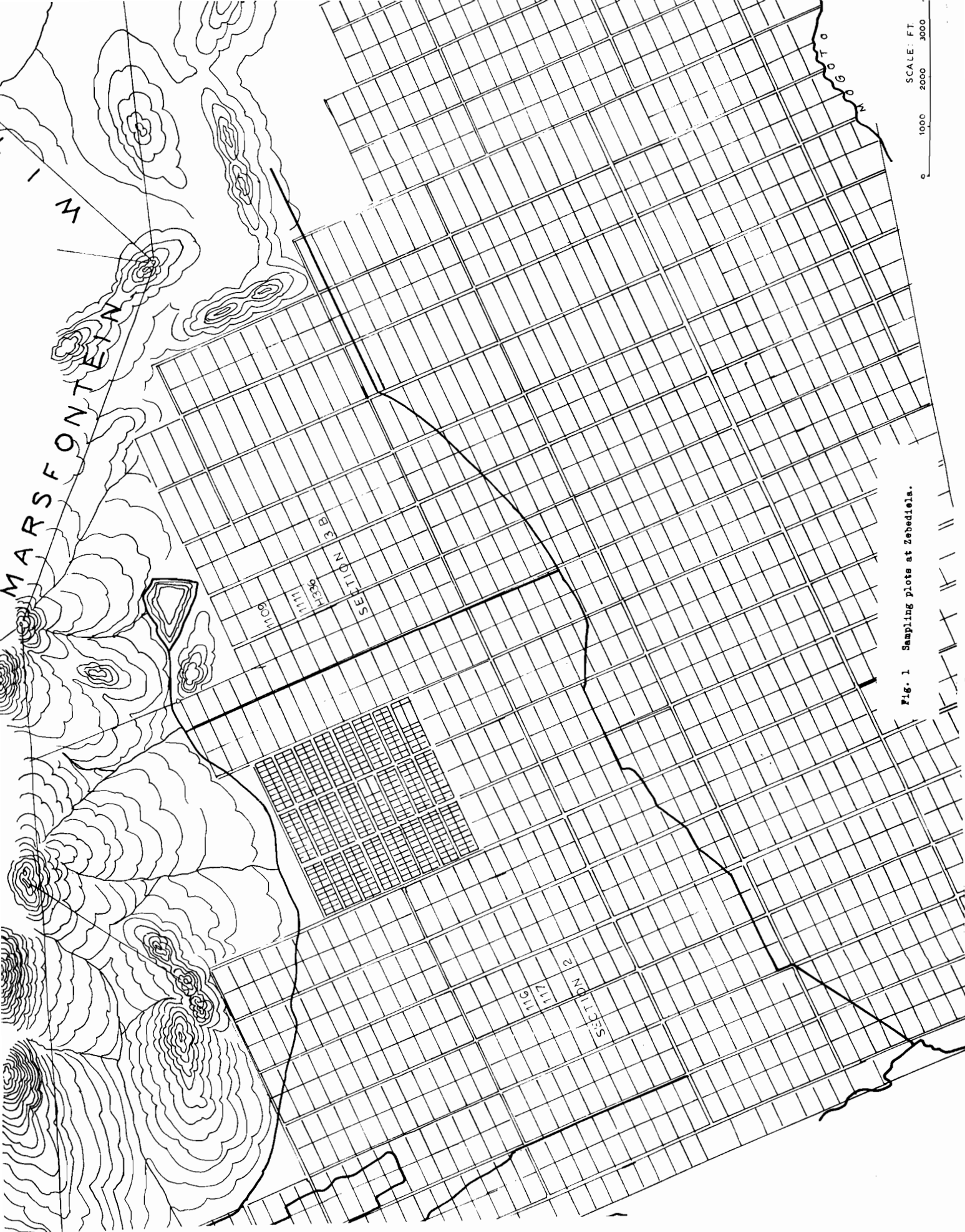


Fig. 1 Sampling plots at Zebediela.



Plate 1 : Plot 1109 (A)



Plate 2 : Plot 1111 (B)



Plate 3 : Plot H 336 (C)



Plate 4 : Plot 117 (D)



Plate 5 : Plot 116 (E)

ing for pest control; on the other hand plot 116 received the normal routine chemical spraying. The significance of a comparison between these five plots would be to find out whether any biological differences exist between the sprayed and untreated soils. Plots 117 and 116 will also be referred to as plots D and E respectively.

3.1 SAMPLING SITES

For sampling purposes one tree was selected on each of the five plots. The exact sampling positions on the plots were:

- Plot A Samples were taken on open grassy spots between the indigenous trees.
- Plot B Row 10, tree 6 east (from the northern beacon)
- Plot C Row 10, tree 7 east (from the northern beacon)
- Plot D Row 9, tree 4 west (from the northern beacon)
- Plot E Row 12, tree 4 west (from the northern beacon)

3.2 SAMPLING DATES

Samples were taken on the 14th July 1965, 14th September, 1965, 14th January 1966 and 14th April 1966.