

and again made a second attempt but nesting with some difficulty. Turning south she went 8 feet and after one more attempt, left the area. The sands seemed suitable and were moist and warm at the depth she had excavated them. This turtle had chosen the edge of the stabilized upper beach for disposing her eggs. James Mathias says that turtles of this species lay the eggs on three different occasions separated by 15 day intervals. The incubation period is 21 days ^{at} of which time the young go directly to the water. He claims that the hole is dug to a depth of three feet and as many as 500 eggs are deposited on the three occasions of nesting.

Alfred George, 57 years old, a negro, told me that he worked at the Reef Bay Sugar Mill when he was a young boy of fifteen. The machinery is dated 1861. Lameshur was used to extract juice from limes and to his knowledge has never been in operation as long as he can remember. Fifteen years ago all lower slopes in Lameshur Bay area, Mill Pond and area to the east were grown to grass and cut by hand to be fed to horses, cattle and sheep. Certain areas were always producing a grass crop. The area above the grass slopes are as they are today. He used wood on lower slopes to burn for charcoal. The Mill Pond, contrary to James Mathias' statement, has never been connected with the ocean. I am of the belief that it has. Fishing is becoming more profitable because there is an increasing market and demand and higher prices. Now fish sell from 20¢ to 50¢ lb according to choice of meat, years ago a two foot fish sold for 10¢. Floods have always been active down gullies. Fish population is the same as when he fished years ago. Green turtles return every 15 days for depositing their eggs, (three times).

This evening set traps from Mt. Bordeaux to Lameshur at 20' intervals. This transect was an attempt to determine any zonal arrangement on the island but more specifically to determine the habitat preferences of the various species of lizards, birds and other animal types. This morning photographed Lameshur from ridge to SW showing rain in background ^{H. G.} (570716-1). At Split Point photos ^{N. G.} (50716-2) of yucca, organ-pipe cacti and frangipani with ocean beyond, skies overcast.

Lameshur, St. John Island, Virgin Island.

July 17, 1957

From trap line of last night's setting (table includes 18th & 19th) are