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A YIELD PREDICTION EQUATION FOR PEPPER (PIPER NIGRUM.L.)

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The pepper crop in experimental plots are, very often, stolen by thieves. The seriousness of this problem could be somewhat lessened if a relationship between the total yield of a vine and the yield of the upper part of vine which is usually least vulnerable, could be established. Data was collected from the guard rows of an on-going trial at Matale. It was found that if the vines were divided into three segments based on their respective heights, the yield from the upper two segments holds a good relationship with the total yield and the plots of data showed that the relationship is linear. A model with both variables subject to error was fitted. The yield harvested

from the two upper portions of all vines with sufficient care, could be utilized in data analyses. When the crop is stolen primarily from the lower portion of vines, the loss in yield would be estimated by the prediction equation, $Y = 3.84 + 1.27 (X-2.73)$ where X is the yield from two upper portions.

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