

# **ARCHIVED - Archiving Content**

# **Archived Content**

Information identified as archived is provided for reference, research or recordkeeping purposes. It is not subject to the Government of Canada Web Standards and has not been altered or updated since it was archived. Please contact us to request a format other than those available.

# ARCHIVÉE - Contenu archivé

# Contenu archive

L'information dont il est indiqué qu'elle est archivée est fournie à des fins de référence, de recherche ou de tenue de documents. Elle n'est pas assujettie aux normes Web du gouvernement du Canada et elle n'a pas été modifiée ou mise à jour depuis son archivage. Pour obtenir cette information dans un autre format, veuillez communiquer avec nous.

This document is archival in nature and is intended for those who wish to consult archival documents made available from the collection of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Some of these documents are available in only one official language. Translation, to be provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, is available upon request.

Le présent document a une valeur archivistique et fait partie des documents d'archives rendus disponibles par Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada à ceux qui souhaitent consulter ces documents issus de sa collection.

Certains de ces documents ne sont disponibles que dans une langue officielle. Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada fournira une traduction sur demande.



# DOMINION OF CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE DOMINION EXPERIMENTAL FARMS

# EXPERIMENTAL STATION

SWIFT CURRENT, SASK.

# REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT J. G. TAGGART, B.S.A. FOR THE YEAR 1924



Sweet clover hay, cut with a binder. Yield two and one-half tons per acre.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

				Pagi
The season	 	 	 	3
Animal Husbandry	 	 	 	4
Field Husbandry	 	 	 	6
Horticulture	 	 	 	20
Cereals	 	 	 	23
Forage-crops	 	 	 	27
Buildings and improvements	 	 <b>.</b>	 	32

# EXPERIMENTAL STATION, SWIFT CURRENT, SASK. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, J. G. TAGGART, B.S.A.

# NOTES ON THE SEASON

The winter of 1924 was comparatively mild and open with an unusually light snowfall. It was generally expected that due to the lack of snow the spring would open early. On the contrary, however, the spring work was delayed by a cold April, so that seeding did not begin until April 21. After that date

seeding proceeded rapidly and was finished in good time.

May, June, and early July were cool and damp with occasional frosts until June 4, when the last frost was recorded. Contrary to the general impression, the rainfall for this period was below the average. Grain and hay crops made fair progress until the middle of July. Between July 15 and 20 the weather turned suddenly hot with strong, hot winds prevailing from the southwest. Owing to the dry fall of 1923 and only a moderate spring rainfall, the moisture reserve in the soil was low, with the result that all crops, with the exception of corn and wheat on fallow, suffered considerable damage. Fortunately the hot weather did not last long. Toward the end of July there was a fair amount of rain and the August precipitation was slightly above the average. Due to the slow growth in the early part of the season, many crops were still in a stage to take advantage of the early August rains, with the result that small grains "filled" well and there was a good, though late, harvest. The peculiar season seemed to have less of an adverse effect on wheat than on most other crops.

The early part of the harvesting season had fairly favourable weather. In late September and early October heavy rains seriously delayed threshing and injured the quality of the wheat. The October rainfall of 3.16 inches was the highest recorded for that month since records were first kept in 1886. Most of this rain fell in one storm on the 11th and 12th. The heavy rains allowed a

considerable amount of fall ploughing to be done.

METEOROLOGICAL RECORD FOR SWIFT CURRENT, SASK., 1924.

<b>W</b> (1)	Temperature		Precipitation	_	,	Wind
Month	High	Low	10" snow = 1"	Evaporation	Sunshine	Total Miles
	Deg. F.	Deg. F.	Inches	Inches	Hours	
January	47.5	40	1.05	- 1	95.3	
February	48	-23	0.55		125 - 5	·
March	39	-2.5	0.53		$124 \cdot 6$	
April	60 75	12 23	0.15		144.9	
May June	78	31	$\substack{2.73\\2.51}$	4.757	201.6	5776
July	91	40	2.06	4·913 5·955	$170 \cdot 2 \\ 224 \cdot 8$	4799 4851
August	86 1	36	2.32	4.790	220.8	4836
September.	85	20	0.68	4.710	196.0	5156
Jetober	76	15	3 · 16	2.060	189 · Ŏ	6008
November	52	-16	0.55	- 1	84 · 1	) . <del>-</del>
December	48	-39	1.40		35⋅0	-
Totals			17.69	27 - 185	1811 · 8	31426

-	Began	Finished
Work on land (first and last dates) Seeding wheat Seeding barley Seeding sunflowers Seeding corn Seeding flax Seeding flax Seeding fall rye. Spring ploughing Ploughing summer-fallow Breaking prairie sod Cutting fall rye Cutting wheat Cutting wheat Cutting barley Cutting flax Operating Combine Cutting sunflowers Cutting sunflowers Throshing Fall ploughing	April 21 May 3 May 23 May 27 May 28 May 29 August 23 April 15 May 9 June 6 August 11 August 27 August 18 September 5 September 6 September 6 September 12	October 29 May 2 May 16 May 29 May 19 June 3 May 30 August 25 April 28 June 5 June 12 August 15 September 3 September 5 September 6 September 10 September 18 September 18 September 12 October 18

#### ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

#### HORSES

The total number of horses is now nineteen, of which number fifteen are effective work horses, two are colts two and three years old, and two are geldings that have outlived their period of usefulness and consequently will be disposed of at the first opportunity.

Records of the cost of maintaining these horses during both summer and winter are being kept, but owing to the wide variations in cost of feed from year to year it is thought advisable not to publish any data until an average of several years can be obtained. Early in 1924 feed costs for both grain and roughage were very low. Toward the end of the season there was a marked increase in the value of coarse grains and hay, so it seems certain the cost of feeding horses during the spring and summer of 1925 will be materially higher.

WINTERING WORK HORSES

As usual, at the conclusion of fall work, the horses were turned into the stubble fields, where they obtained their living for nearly two months. Due to the lighter growth of straw this season all crops were cut close, leaving little waste for stock to pick up. Winter also set in earlier than usual with severe cold and heavy snow storms, making it necessary to begin feeding horses by mid-December. The horses are now being fed corn-fodder and oat-straw in a corral and shelter formerly used for steer-feeding. After being turned out the horses

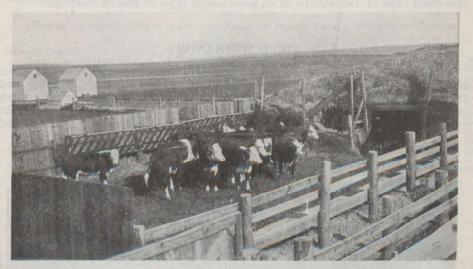
are not stabled again until spring work begins.

#### CATTLE

The herd of Shorthorn cattle now numbers two bulls, eleven cows, four heifers, and four calves. During the year three bull calves were sold at prices ranging from \$25 to \$40 each. Two calves and one cow were sold for beef.

Without making a detailed statement of costs and returns, it might be mentioned that the five cows that finished their last lactation periods toward the end of 1924 produced the following quantities of milk: (1) 11,042 lbs. (2) 6,342 lbs. (3) 4,354 lbs. (4) 2,481 lbs. and (5) 2,310 lbs. Costs of feed and

pasture for these cows varied from fifty to seventy-four dollars each. The first three cows paid for their feed at current values, and in addition showed a fair margin to cover labour and housing costs. Cows numbered (4) and (5), owing to their small production of milk, did not prove profitable from a milk production point of view, but they are being held as breeders, their progeny to be used for feeding purposes.



Some of the steers fed at Swift Current 1923-24—showing feeding corral and rough straw shelter.

#### STEER FEEDING EXPERIMENT

Forty head of Hereford steers were purchased in November, 1923. The steers ran on the stubble fields until December 1st, when they were put into feeding corrals. From December to June the feeding ration consisted of corn ensilage, oat straw, and chop consisting of equal parts by weight of oats, barley, rye, cracked and shrunken wheat. At the beginning of the feeding period, each steer was fed daily 25 pounds of corn ensilage, 4 pounds of chop, and as much straw as they would eat. The ensilage was so increased that within a month each steer received 40 pounds a day. After two months' of heavy ensilage feeding, the amount was again reduced so that before the end of the period each steer was receiving 30 pounds a day. The grain ration was gradually increased until a month before the end of the period each steer received 13 pounds a day. This rate was maintained until the steers were sold. The steers did not at any time consume a very large amount of straw and no record was kept of the amount used.

The following summary shows weights, gains, feed consumption, costs and selling value.

FEEDING STEERS			
Average initial weight per steer, 822·5 lbs.  Initial weight of 40 steers, 32,900 lbs. at 5 c.  124 tons ensilage consumed at \$2.75 per ton.  68,400 lbs. chop consumed at 1 c.		. 34	5 00 1 00 4 00
Total cost of steers and feed		\$ 2,67	0 00
Average gain per steer, 278 · 5 lbs. Gain in weight of 40 steers	32,900 lbs		
Selling weight	44,040 lbs		
44 040 lbs at \$6 10 may and		e 9 69	8 11

#### SWINE

Until November, 1924, no swine had been kept at the Station. During that month, the Dominion Animal Husbandman purchased for us from the Ontario Agricultural College one Tamworth boar and three young Tamworth sows. These are all of good bacon type, and it is the intention to build up a fair-sized herd of Tamworths of as good bacon type as can be developed.

#### FIELD HUSBANDRY

Both plots and fields are used for field husbandry experiments. While most lines of experimental work can be conducted with greater accuracy and under closer observation on plots than on fields, it is obvious that such work as cost of production studies and farm rotations must be carried out on the larger areas. At this Station, in addition to the two lines of work on fields and



Trench silo ready for filling.

on plots, certain of the cultural experiments, such as Fallow and Stubble Treatments for Wheat, are carried out on both plots and fields. In all cases the comments on the experiments will indicate whether data are from plots or fields.

A number of experiments on soil moisture are also being conducted under controlled and laboratory conditions. Details of the experiments will be found in the report of the Dominion Field Husbandman.

# PRODUCTION COSTS OF, AND RETURNS FROM, CROPS IN ROTATIONS AND UNDER VARIOUS CULTURAL SYSTEMS

COST OF PRODUCTION STUDIES

In all field experiments careful record is kept of the cost of producing the crops in rotations and under different cultural treatments. In the section of the report in which the rotation and cultural treatment data are presented there

will also be found cost of production figures. In most cases these data are summarized into a bare statement of the cost per acre. In the case of wheat on fallow in the seven-year rotation a detailed statement is given to show the method of arriving at costs of production. In practically all cases the yield per acre is the most important factor in determining the cost of producing a bushel or other crop unit.

DETAILED STATEMENT, COST OF PRODUCING WHEAT ON FALLOW FIELD 5, SEVEN-YEAR ROTATION

(Area of field—9 acres)				
Items of Cost:				
Rent of land, 9 acres for 2 yrs. at \$2.40 per acre		43		
Use of machinery, 9 acres for 2 yrs, at \$1 per acre.		18		
Ploughing, 1923, man and 6 horses, 18 hrs. at 90 cents		16	20	3
Cultivating twice, 1923, man and 6 horses, 11 hrs. at 90 cents		9	90	)
Seeding, man and 4 horses, 44 hrs. at 70 cents.		3	15	į
Harrowing, man and 4 horses, 3 hrs. at 70 cents		2	10	)
Cutting, man and 4 horses, 5 hrs. at 70 cents.		3	10 50	)
Stooking, man, 10 hrs. at 30 cents.		3	00	)
Threshing, 251 bu. at 15 cents.		37		
Twine, 30 lbs. at 16 cents.			80	
Seed, 11 bu, at 90 cents			90	
Secu, ii bu. at by conto				
Total cost	\$ 1	51	40	)
Value of crop, 251 bu. at \$1.40 \$ 351 40				
Cost per acre				
Cost per bushel				

#### ROTATION SUMMARIES

SEVEN-YEAR ROTATION-9 ACRE FIELDS
Summary of yields, value and profit and loss, per acre

Crop	Yield 1924	Value	Cost of Production	Profit
		\$	\$	\$
1. Corn	1 ton	18 06 36 40 10 00	15 56 10 73 5 28	2 50 25 67 4 72
4. Fallow	28 bushels	39 04	16 81	22 23
7. Fall rye. Average (for total area in rotation)	33 bushels	33 00 19 50	17 32 9 38	15 68 10 12

Field 1. Corn was grown on land which produced a crop of fall rye in 1923. The rye had been badly damaged by hail and as a consequence the stubble was heavily seeded with rye and weed seeds. It was necessary to burn the stubble and then disk it, previous to spring ploughing, in order to have the land reasonably clean. Even then there was a considerable growth of rye which could not be entirely eradicated without hand hoeing. These items have added materially to the cost of production of corn.

Field 2. The wheat on this field was seeded on corn stubble, following double disking. One-third of the area was seeded with sweet clover at the same time, one-third with brome grass, and one-third with Western rye.

Field 3. The hay crop in this field consisted of sweet clover, brome grass and Western rye, in equal areas, which had been seeded in 1923, using wheat as a nurse crop. Sweet clover gave a fair yield, while brome was poor and Western rye was very poor.

Fields 5 and 7. The costs of fallowing these fields in 1923 have been charged to the 1924 crops.

#### Two-YEAR ROTATION—FALLOW, FALL RYE Summary of yields, value and profit and loss (per acre)

Crop	Yield, 1924	Value	Cost of production	Profit
Fall rye		32 00	\$ 17 21	\$ 14 79
rye)				7 40

The fall rye and fallow rotation covers an area of 14 acres, divided equally between cropped land and fallow. The average return per acre over the fourteen acres is \$7.40.

THREE-YEAR ROTATION—FALLOW, WHEAT, WHEAT Summary of yields, value and profit and loss (per acre)

Crop	Yield, 1924	Value	Cost of production	Profit
Wheat. Wheat Fallow (charged to succeeding crop)	27.5	48 44 38 50	\$ 18 86 13 22	\$ 29 58 25 28
Average (for total area of rotation)		28 98	10 69	18 29

The three-year rotation (wheat, wheat, fallow) covers an area of 18 acres. The costs of fallowing field one in 1923 are charged to the wheat crop of 1924. The rotation shows an average profit of \$18.29 per acre over the whole area.

THREE-YEAR ROTATION—FALLOW, WHEAF, OATS Summary of yields, value and profit and loss (per acre)

Crop	Yield, 1924	Value	Cost of production	Profit
WheatOatsFallow (cost charged to succeeding crop)	Bush. 271 38	\$ 38 15 19 00	\$ 16 41 9 40	\$ 21.74 9.60
Average (for total area of rotation)			8 €0	10 45

The three-year rotation (wheat, oats, fallow) was grown on an area of 36 acres. The costs of fallowing in 1923 are charged to the 1924 wheat crop. The average profit per acre, over the 36 acres, is \$10.45.

TWO-YEAR ROTATION—FALLOW, WHEAT Summary of yields, value and profit and loss (per acre)

Сгор	Yield, 1924	Value	Cost of production	Profit
Wheat	Bush.	<b>46</b> 20	\$ 18 21	\$ 27 99
wheat)	, . <b>.</b>			14 00

The two-year rotation (wheat and fallow) has an area of 10 acres, which are divided equally between cropped land and fallow. The average profit per acre over the whole area is \$14.

#### SUMMARIES OF CULTURAL SYSTEMS

YIELDS AND COSTS OF PRODUCTION OF WHEAT ON PACKED AND UNPACKED LAND

Treatment	Packer used	.Yield	Value per acre	Cost per acre	Profit per acre
		Bu.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Spring-ploughed, harrowed, packed, seeded and packed	Cultipacker	$29 \cdot 5$	41 30	13 85	27 45
Spring-ploughed, harrowed and seeded	No packer	$27 \cdot 5$	38 50	12 68	25 82
Spring-ploughed, harrowed, packed, seeded and packed	Surface packer	$25 \cdot 5$	35 70	13 13	22 57
ing, cultivated, seeded and packed.	Cultipacker	<b>36</b> ·0	50 40	19 35	31 05
Fallow harrowed after ploughing, culti- vated and seeded	No packer	34.0	47 60	18 18	29 42
Fallow harrowed and packed after ploughing, cultivated, seeded and packed	Surface packer	34 · <b>0</b>	47 60	19 05	28 55

This experiment is conducted on an area of 18 acres, in a three-year rotation of fallow, wheat, wheat. Each field of the rotation is divided into three plots; two are packed and one not packed. Apart from the use of the packers, all fields, both fallow and stubble, are given uniform standard treatments.

YIELDS AND COSTS OF PRODUCTION OF WHEAT FOLLOWING DIFFERENT STUBBLE TREATMENTS

Field	Crop	Stubble Treatment	Yield per acre	Value	Cost of product'n	Profit
			Bu.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
1	Wheat	Fall-ploughed, spring-harrowed, seeded and harrowed.	26.3	36 82	12 28	24 54
2	Wheat	Fall-disked, spring-ploughed, harrowed,	20.0	00 02	12 20	21 01
		seeded and harrowed	33.3	46 62	14 27	32 35
3	Wheat	Spring-ploughed, harrowed, seeded and harrowed	30.0	42 00	12 84	29 16
4	Wheat	Spring-burned, ploughed, harrowed, seeded		_	[ 12 01 ]	
	ì	and harrowed	$33 \cdot 16$	46 42	13 21	33 21
5	Wheat	Spring-burned, disked, see led and harrowed	31.8	44 52	11 58	32 94
6	Wheat	Spring-disked, seeded and harrowed	27.0	37 80	10 95	26 85
7		Preceding crop cut by Combine, spring-			1	
•		burned and seeded	23.7	<b>3</b> 3 18	9 81	23 37
8	Wheat	Preceding crop cut by Combine, spring-			]	
		burned, disked and seeded	26.3	36 82	10 90	25 92

This experiment covers a total area of 72 acres, exclusive of roads and divisions. A three-year rotation of fallow, wheat, wheat, is followed. A uniform standard treatment is given in the fallow year, while the second-crop land is divided into eight plots of three acres each, which are given the treatments indicated in the table.

In comparing yields from these fields with those from other rotations it should be borne in mind that the best land on the Farm is used in this experiment.

10

# YIELDS AND COSTS OF PRODUCTION OF WHEAT Following Different Fallow Treatments

Field	Crop	Fallow Treatment	Yield per acre	Value	Cost of Produc- tion	Profit
1	Wheat	Fall-ploughed, cultivated only during fallow	Bush.	\$	\$	\$
	1	year	21.0	29 40	26 14	13 26
2		Fall-disked, cultivated only during fallow year.	23.75	33 25	15 29	17 96
3	"	Cultivated only during fallow year	30.5	42 70	15 77	26 93
4 5	"	Cultivated till July 15, ploughed	32.0	44 80	17 12	27 68
6	1	as required	27.25	38 15	16 41	21 74
		as required. (Previous crop seeded with sweet clover 10 lbs. per acre)		35 00	16 07	18 93

This experiment is conducted in a three-year rotation on a total area of 36 acres. Each field of the rotation is subdivided into six plots of two acres each. In the fallow year each of the two-acre plots receives the treatment indicated in the preceding table. The purpose of the experiment is to determine the influence of various treatments on yields of wheat, cost of production, and the effectiveness of the treatments in controlling weeds.

#### CULTURAL TESTS

#### STUBBLE TREATMENTS FOR WHEAT PRODUCTION

Treatment	Freedom from weeds on Sept. 15th	Height of crop when cut	Yield per acre
	100 points	Inches	Bush.
Fall-plough 4 inches, spring-harrow, seed, harrow. Fall-disc, spring-plough, harrow, seed, harrow. Spring-plough 4 inches, harrow, seed, harrow. Spring-burn stubble, disk, seed, harrow. Spring-disk stubble, seed, harrow. Spring-disk stubble, seed, harrow. Spring-burn stubble, seed (no treatment). Seed in stubble wit hout treatment. Spring-burn, plough 7 inches, harrow, seed, harrow. Spring-burn, plough 4 inches, subsoil 6 inches, harrow, seed, harrow. Fall-burn, spring-plough 4 inches, harrow, seed, harrow. Fall-burn, spring-disc, seed, harrow. Spring-burn, cultivate, seed.	54 56 96 74 48 66 18 72 76 76	36 35 33 32 32 34 31 31 31 31 32	37.58 35.29 34.41 32.49 35.74 35.66 26.57 35.15 36.61 35.37 34.92 34.78

This experiment is laid down on ½0-acre plots triplicated in a three-year rotation of fallow, wheat, wheat. During the fallow year and for the first wheat crop all plots receive a uniform standard treatment. For the second wheat crop the different plots receive the various treatments indicated in the accompanying table. For this crop all other conditions, such as variety, rate and date of seeding, are kept as nearly uniform as possible. Careful observations are made of the effect of the different treatments on the growth of weeds. An effort is being made to give a quantitative statement of weed growth by using the figure 100 to indicate practical freedom from weeds. Since the yields given are for one year only, no comment need be made on the outcome of the experiment, nor should any definite conclusions be drawn as to the relative merits of the treatments.

#### CONTINUOUS WHEAT

Crop*	Date mature	Height at harvest	Grain per acre
Marquis Wheat		Inches	Bush.
Sown continuously on disked stubble		24 24	10·41 11·97

<sup>\*</sup>Note.—Sown May 17th on 1/50-acre plots in duplicate; ripened Aug. 22nd.

On July 23 wheat sown on disked stubble was 20 inches high, badly tip-burned, thin, and very weedy (chiefly Russian thistle). Wheat sown on spring ploughed wheat stubble was 25 inches high, slightly tip-burned, gave prospects for a fair crop. Few Russian thistles.

TWO-YEAR ROTATION-WHEAT-FALLOW

Crop*	Date mature	Height at harvest	Grain per acre
Wheat	Aug. 28	Inches 32	Bush. 29 · 15

<sup>\*</sup>Note.—Sown May 17th on 1/50-acre plots, duplicated; ripened Aug. 28th.

On July 23 wheat sown on fallow was 28 inches high; no tip-burning; free of weeds except a few Russian thistles.

WHEAT FOLLOWING FALLOW AND VARIOUS FALLOW SUBSTITUTES

		Yield	of previou	s crop	1924	crop		
Crop 1924	Previous Crop	Fodder per acre Green Weight	Fodder per acre Dry Weight	Grain per acre	Height at harvest	Grain per acre	Remarks	
4	Potatoes, Rows 42" x 18". Sudar grass, doub. rows. Sunflowers, sing. rows Fallow	9413 33400 18800	2374 4524 3365	47·5 60·6 8·3	inches 30 27 23 34 30 25 27 24 33 24 28	14.99 36.24 29.22 19.53 24.78 16.38 33.53 17.49	2% tip-burn'd 25% " 35% " 20% tip-burn'd 5% " 40% tip-burn'd 40% tip-burn'd	

This project is carried out on ½0-acre plots triplicated, in a two-year rotation of fallow or fallow substitute alternating with wheat. Yields of both fallow substitutes and wheat following them are kept. Records are kept of the amount and kind of cultivation given under each treatment and observations are made as to the weed growth on each plot. In comparing the 1924 wheat yields from the various plots, the reader should at the same time note the yield of the preceding crop. Between the 15th and 20th of July, 1924, it was observed that the wheat on practically all plots which had produced a heavy yield of any crop in 1923 showed obvious signs of damage from drought. One objection to

some of the fallow substitutes, particularly barley and oats, is the fact that these crops volunteer in the subsequent wheat crop, much to the detriment of the quality of the latter.

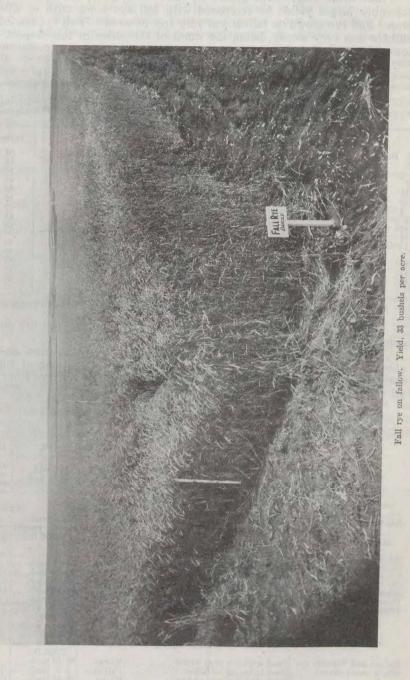
SEQUENCE OF CROPS

1924	D1	F	odder Crop, 19	Grain C	rop, 1924	
Crop	Preceding Crop	Height	Green Weight	Dıy Weight	Height	Yield per acre
	Wheat Fallow		lbs	lbs	inches 27 37	bush. 11·39 68·73
Oats Oats	Millet Corn Hubam	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		30 31 28	27 · 56 36 · 03 16 · 91
Oats Hubam Hubam	Oats Wheat Fallow	40 40	7900 11600	2743 2153	24	14.70
Hubam Hubam Hubam Hubam	Millet Corn Hubam Oats	40 40 40 40	4450 7000 3250 . 3750	1584 1705 817 1201		
Corn Corn	Wheat Fallow Millet	58 51 53	11094 11868 9374	2019 2159 1706		
Corn Corn	Corn Hubam Oats	52 54 52	9804 10320 6278	2150 1878 1142		
Millet Millet	Wheat Fallow Millet Corn	18 18 18 18	7350 10150 5050 9500	3059 4515 1628 3912		
Millet Millet	Hubam Oats	18 18	6200 4200	2587 2021	24	11.45
Wheat	Fallow Millet Corn.				32 20 28	30.83 13.12 23.33
Wheat					20 18	9·16 7·9

This experiment is carried out on duplicate ½0-acre plots. The table is arranged to show relative yields of various crops sown on fallow as compared with the same crops grown on land which had produced either grain, corn, clover, or an annual hay crop the year previous. It will be noticed that in every case the crops grown on fallow have produced the heaviest yields.

PLACE IN ROTATION TO SEED FALL RYE 1/50-acre plots. Now triplicated

Rotation	Cultural Method	Date Ripe	Height when cut	Yield Fall Rye per acre
Oats, fallow, fall rye Fallow, barley, fall rye. Fallow and seed down, hay and break fall rye. Fallow, wheat, fall rye. Oats, fallow, fall rye Fallow, oats and fall rye seeded to- gether, fall rye. Oats, sunflowers, fall rye. Oats, corn, fall rye. Oats, oats and fall rye seeded one month later, fall rye. Oats, corn, fall rye. Oats, corn, fall rye. Oats, sunflowers, fall rye. Oats, sunflowers, fall rye.	Seed on ploughed barley stubble. Seed on ploughed sod. Seed on wheat stubble. Seed on fallow. Seed after sunflowers cut. Seed on fallow. Seed after corn cut. Seed fall rye one month after oats sown. Seed between rows of corn.	Aug. 2 July 24 Aug. 14 July 28 Aug. 14 July 28 Aug. 14 Aug. 14 Aug. 14	1nches 47 46 45 42 47 51 46 47 43 41 43 45	Bus. 35-71 20-08 20-53 10-26 42-85 17-41 16-96 42-85 32-58  8-48 30-35 24-55



Like most other crops grown on fallow this year, fall rye has given considerably larger yields as compared with fall rye sown with or after another crop. Fall rye grown on fallow was very free of weeds. Fall rye seeded on wheat stubble was very weedy, being the worst of the series in this respect as well as lowest in yield of grain.

RATES AND DATES OF SEEDING FALL RYE

	Rate sown. Bus. pe	er acre	Date sown 1923	Date of Ripening	Height at Harvest	Yield of Grain per acre
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Bushel		" 15th	" 2nd " 2nd " 3rd " 2nd " 2nd " 2nd " 2nd " 2nd " 3rd	Inches 50 45 45 47 45 45 49 48	Bus.  34·33 34·30 35·41 39·57 41·51 38·24 45·53 44·12 46·57 47·31
1 1 1 1 1 1 1	« « « « «		" 15th	" 1st	49 46 43 43 46	30·20 29·30 27·97 25·74 31·66

Note.—Sown on 1/50 acre plots, triplicated—two-year rotation—Fall rye and fallow.

All earliest sowings produced excellent growth for fall pasture purposes, but

apparently at the expense of yield of grain.

The fall of 1923 was fairly dry, but the fall rye being sown on fallow was able to stand the condition. Favourable moisture conditions of the following spring and remainder of the season produced a good crop of rye from practically all rates and dates of seeding.

PLACE IN ROTATION TO SEED GRASSES AND LEGUMES

Hay Crop					Nurse	Crop 1923	Hay Crop 1924		
		,	Method used			Kind	Yield per sere	Green weight per acre	Dry weight per acre
								lbs	lbs
Brome and Wes	tern ryc	Seed.	with 1st between	year who	at	Wheat Corn	24·16 bush Green weight	4,850	1,892
		1				ļ	15,800 lbs	Failed	Failed
"	" .	. Seed	alone on	fallow		None		7,550	3,104
44	" .	. Seed	alone on	spring plo	oughing	None		4,950	2,089
к		.  Seed	with 1st	year whe	at	Wheat	24.33 bush	4,850	1,732
		. Seed	in spring	on fall ry	re	Fall rye.	8.9 bush	7,200	2,548
		. Seed	with 2nd	year wh	eat	Wheat	12.83 bush	4,850	2,139
White sweet clo	ver	. Seed	with 1st	year who	eat	Wheat	25.16 bush	9,850	2,667
Brome and Wes								5,550	2,258
White sweet clo	ver	. Seed	between	rows of c	orn	Corn	Green weight		
44 6	,	١, ,		•		1	15,800 lbs	1,000	233
••		.∣≋eea	alone on	iallow		None	Green weight		
	,	۱,					18,680 lbs	8,700	2,384
	• • •	.  Seed	alone on	spring-plo	oughing	None	Green weight		
		l~ ,				, ,	7,800 lbs	7,350	2,095
Brome and Wes	tern rye	. Seed	with ist	year who	at	wheat	23.83 Dush	5,700	2,229
White sweet clo	ver	. Seed	in spring	on tallow		Fall rye.	oush	13,350	3,312
		.  Seed	with 2nd	year wh	eat	wncat	10.83 bush	8,050	2,254
Brome and Wes	tern rye	. peed	with 1st	year wne	жы	wneat	44'00 DUSD	4.550	1,663

Grasses and legumes sown with nurse crops in 1923 have generally given better yields of hay than those sown with nurse crops in the previous year.

Brome and Western rye sown between rows of corn has failed for the second time. Another experiment is now under way to determine the proper time of sowing.

White sweet clover sown alone on fallow gave excellent yields the same year it was sown. Smaller yields were obtained from white sweet clover sown on spring-ploughed wheat-stubble.

Both white sweet clover and a mixture of Brome and Western rye grown with fall rye gave excellent yields of hay, but it will be observed that the nurse crop was thin and the yield of grain light.

DATES OF SEEDING CORN

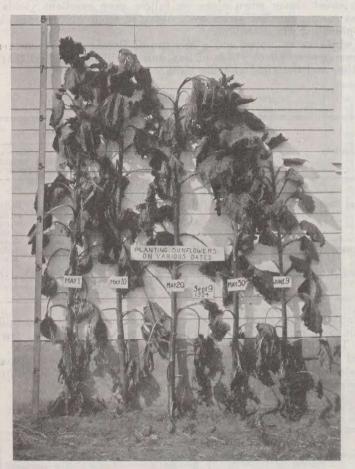
		Average of Quadruplicates					
Variety	Date Sown Date Emerged		Height	Stage Cut	Green weight per acre	Dry weight per acre	
			Inches		lbs.	lbs.	
North Western Dent	May 1 " 10 " 20 " 30	" 26 June 2 " 10 " 19 May 24 " 26	32 32	Dough Dough Late milk Milk Early milk 42% ripe 29% ripe 28% ripe 9% ripe Dough	16,684 16,053 13,631 5,203 6,234	2,881 2,499 3,063 2,753 2,502 1,268 1,481 1,463 1,840 1,461	

The dates of seeding project with corn was carried out in quadruplicate rows 72½ feet long; 42 inches apart with plants spaced at intervals of ten inches in the row. The first seeding required twenty-three days to emerge, while the second and third seedings required only sixteen days. The third seeding of North Western Dent produced the largest yield of fodder, while the first seeding of squaw corn gave the largest percentage of ripe ears.

DATES OF PLANTING SUNFLOWERS

Date sown	Date emerged	Height at . harvest	Stage when cut	Green weight per acre	Dry weight per acre
May 3	May 22	80 78 77 74 60	Late bloom Late bloom Early bloom Early bloom Budding	Lbs.  29,541 25,714 23,306 21,070 14,233	Lbs. 5,648 4,292 4,113 3,969 2,596

The dates for seeding sunflowers project is carried out in quadruplicate rows  $72\frac{1}{2}$  feet long, 42 inches apart, with plants spaced at intervals of ten inches in the row. While the early seedings lead all later ones throughout the season and in final yield, the difference was more marked during June and early July. This period was cool and damp, and favoured the growth of this crop.



The heaviest yield was secured from sunflowers planted the first of May.

# TESTS OF FARM MACHINERY

#### THE STUBBLE-BURNER

Investigation of the use of the stubble-burner was continued in both the spring and the fall seasons of 1924. The report on the stubble-burner for 1923 was quite complete, and, in view of the fact that results in 1924 were very similar to those of 1923, it will be unnecessary to repeat what has been previously reported.

In addition to making general observations on the use of the machine, an effort was made during the past season to get some information on the effect of the burner on seeds which were lying on or immediately under the surface of the ground.

In January our machine was returned to the manufacturer (The Canadian Farm Implement Company of Medicine Hat) for the purpose of replacing some parts upon which improvements have been made since the first machines were built.

Early in the spring (as soon as stubble was fit to burn) the burner was used on a weedy stubble-field on which wheat had been grown in the previous year. The weeds consisted of Russian Thistle, Tumbling Mustard, Wild Buckwheat, and French weed. There was also some wheat shelled from the previous crop lying on the ground. After the burner had passed, charred seeds were collected and subjected to a germination test. It was found that of the seeds collected about 80 per cent had been killed by the fire. The large seeds were more readily killed than the small ones. Thermometers were placed in the path of the burner and covered with soil, from a quarter of an inch to an inch in depth. It was found that the temperatures rose only from one to three degrees.

In October another test was made on a field of the same type. On this occasion two different burners were used. The second one was loaned for the



Stubble-burner at work.

purpose by the Western Implement Company of Regina. Records of fuel consumption and acres covered per hour were kept. In addition, twenty samples of soil before burning and twenty after burning were taken on the land covered by each burner. The soil was sampled on square-foot areas and as nearly as possible to a depth of one-half inch. The burned and unburned samples were taken as close together as possible and each series of twenty covered at regular intervals a distance of a sixth of a mile. This system of sampling was adopted to make the work accurate and representative. The samples were dried, each was thoroughly mixed and the same quantity weighed out from each. Germination tests were then made of the weighed samples. Not knowing the amount of seeds in the soil we made an error, in that the samples were too large, containing so many seeds that an accurate and complete count was impossible. However, some of the worst and some of the best samples were counted and the whole eighty were looked over carefully. In those that were counted the number of seeds which grew varied from 150 to 1,440 per square foot to a depth of half an inch. Only one difference could be observed between burned and unburned samples, and that was that the burned samples showed practically no viable

wheat kernels, while the unburned samples showed from none to five viable wheat kernels per square foot. As to the growth of French weed (the chief weed on the land) there was no observable difference between the burned and the unburned, nor was there any difference between the two machines in respect to the number of seeds which grew after burning. This test has convinced us that seeds which are even slightly covered with soil are not injured by the burning of the stubble above them.

As to fuel consumption it was found that the Regina machine burned approximately five gallons of fuel oil per acre, and the Medicine Hat machine used over nine gallons per acre. The former worked under a pressure of 15 pounds per square inch, and the latter under about 150 pounds per square inch. The Regina machine covered slightly over, and the Medicine Hat machine slightly under, two acres per hour. It should be pointed out that burning conditions were not favourable and all the land was covered by the burners, so that the fuel consumption was probably as high as it ever would be under any circumstances where burning should be attempted.

Both machines made a clean job of burning stubble and trash where the

fire would not run a foot beyond the path of the burner.

Summing up our experience with stubble-burners, we would mention the following for the consideration of the farmer who contemplates the purchase of one of these machines:—

1. The machine is costly to buy (\$250 to \$300).

2. Where all the land must be covered it is costly to operate (four to nine gallons of oil, costing \$1 to \$2.25 per acre).

3. The burner will not destroy seeds, insect eggs or larvæ which are covered

by even a small amount of soil.

4. The best the burner will do is to burn trash and stubble from the surface

so that the land can be surface-worked without ploughing.

5. Where burning conditions are good, the cost of operating per acre may be reduced to a low point, but as burning conditions improve it becomes easier to burn by some means other than the stubble-burner.

#### THE COMBINE

In 1924 the Massey-Harris combine harvested 100 acres of Marquis wheat, 60 acres of which were on fallow and the remainder second-year wheat. The crops varied from a clean crop yielding 33.6 bushels per acre to a very weedy, light yield of 11.5 bushels per acre. The machine worked well throughout, there being very few delays owing to mechanical troubles. In the poorer crops the ripe weed seeds were separated from the grain. However, owing to late rains, there was a considerable quantity of green weeds in the ripe crop, and a portion of green weeds appeared with the threshed grain, giving it a dirty and tough appearance. In the bin the green seeds dried up and the grain had the normal appearance of wheat containing a percentage of weed seed. Harvesting with the combine was ten days later than with the binder.

The following shows the cost of harvesting wheat with the combine:-

#### (Area of field-6 acres.)

Interest, depreciation and repairs, 6 acres at \$1.15 per acre	2 20 2 00 1 00 1 80
Total for 6 acres	\$ 14 25

Yield for 6 acres, 201.6 bushels. Yield per acre, 33.6 bushels. Cost per acre, \$2.39. Cost per bushel, 7 cents. Owing to the high yield, the cost per bushel is low. In the case of a crop yielding 10 bushels per acre, the cost per bushel would be approximately 24 cents.

During the season four combines were purchased and operated in the district. Summarized accounts of the reports which the owners furnished the Sta-

tion are as follows:—

Messrs. Kinnon Bros., of Hughton, Sask., operating a 16-foot Case combine drawn by a 15-30 h.p. Hart-Parr tractor, cut 450 acres of wheat in fourteen days. The best day's work was 40 acres. Outside of depreciation, the estimated cost of operation was \$1 per acre. The average yield was  $4\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per acre. No comparison between combine and binder could be made because the crop cut by the combine was too short for the binder. The grain from the combine kept without loss, and a portion which was sent directly to the elevator was special binned. The stubble-crop cut by the combine was the only stubble-crop cut in Messrs. Kinnon's district.

Mr. F. B. Lynch, of Forgan, Sask., operated a 16-foot Case combine, drawn by a 15-30 I.H.C. tractor, for a period of ten days. The best day's work was 30 acres. Outside of depreciation, the estimated cost of operation was \$1.50 per acre. The yield was 15 bushels per acre, and the cost of harvesting per bushel was 10 cents. Objection was raised by the grain buyers to some grain, sent directly to the elevator, which contained a quantity of green weed-seeds. The combine was started on September 2, and binders on August 25. The estimated saving per bushel effected by the combine over the binder,

stooking and threshing, was 15 cents.

Mr. M. M. Hess, of Hughton, Sask., operated a 16-foot Case combine, drawn by a 15-30 H.P. tractor. Four hundred and twenty acres of wheat, 200 acres of oats, and 160 acres of flax were cut. No time was lost for repairs, but two weeks were lost due to weather. The best day's work was 45 acres. Outside of depreciation, wheat yielding 23½ bushels per acre cost 5 cents per bushel. and \$1.18 per acre. The estimated saving per bushel compared with binder, stooking, and threshing was 18 cents per bushel. The combine commenced operation on September 2, and the binders were used on August 24. The grain from the combine kept without loss. A portion sent to the elevators was accepted without any objection.

Mr. Lars Hendrickson, of Swift Current, operated an I.H.C. combine, and

was very well satisfied by the work done.

On the Station a small field was harvested by the combine on September 6. The grain appeared to be in good condition, but when the bin was opened two months later the grain was bin-burnt. Too much emphasis can hardly be placed on the necessity of deferring combine operations until there is absolute certainty that the grain is hard enough to keep. This of course exposes the crop to damage from wind, rain or snow, and thereby constitutes the greatest objection to the general adoption of the combine in this district.

#### WEED CONTROL AND SOIL DRIFTING

In the spring of 1924 a quarter section of land lying three miles southeast of the Station was rented for the purpose of studying the relation between cultural methods and the control of weeds and soil drifting on land which has

been under cultivation for some years.

The land we have rented is admirably suited to the purpose. The soil is a good chocolate clay loam, representative of a large area in southwestern Saskatchewan. It was broken in 1906, since which time it has been continuously under a rotation of fallow, wheat, wheat. It has become infested with weeds such as Russian thistle, tumbling mustard, wild buckwheat, and French weed, all of which are common in the district.

A variety of treatments, both of fallow and stubble, for wheat growing have been laid out. A rotation containing corn, rye and grass, part manured and part not manured, is now established. The work in 1924 has been largely of a preliminary nature, but the various treatments and rotations are now established so that comparable results may be obtained from them in 1925.

# HORTICULTURE

# VEGETABLE GARDENING

The season of 1924 was very unfavourable for vegetable growing. Until mid-July the temperatures were much below normal. The rainfall was below the average and at times high winds prevailed. Owing to lack of shelter, the garden suffered more from the wind than from any other cause. Some vegetables, particularly cabbage, peas, and potatoes, did well, but most others produced a small crop of poor quality.

Detailed reports of only a few horticural projects are published.

BEETS-VARIETY TEST

Variety	Source of seed	Yield per 30-ft. row	Remarks
		Lbs.	
Detroit Dark Red Detroit Dark Red Market King	McDonald Seed Co C. E. F Graham Seed Co	73 64 42	Medium size, round, good table beet. Medium size, round, good table beet. Medium size, long.

Sown 19th May in 30-ft. rows and thinned to from 3 in. to 4 in. apart in the row.

CARROTS-DIFFERENT DATES OF SEEDING

Date sown	Average yield of duplicates per 30-ft, row	Remarks
	Lbs.	
May 14. May 27. June 3. June 13. June 23.	16 17 17 12 5	33% very small. 33% very small. 33% very small. 55% very small. 80% very small.

Chantenay was the variety used in test. Largest roots of earliest sowings were 6 in. long. Largest roots of latest sowings were 3 in. long. The two earliest sowings were ready to use August 20th.

PARSNIPS-DIFFERENT DATES OF SEEDING

· Date sown	Average size of roots	Average yield of duplicates per 30 ft. row
	Inches	Lbs.
May 14.  May 27.  June 3.  June 13.  June 23.	10 x 2½ 10 x 2 10 x 1½ 10 x 1½ 10 x 1½ 10 x 1½	16 10 9 9 61

Hollow Crown was the variety used in test.
Sown in 30-ft. rows, spaced 30 in. by 3 in. to 4 in.
Roots were very difficult to pull; plough needed to loosen soil at side of roots before pulling.
First sowing was ready to use 17th September; the remainder, with exception of second sowing, were hardly worth pulling, even in October.

# BEANS-VARIETY TEST

Eighteen varieties were sown in duplicate in 30-foot rows on 29th May. The entire crop, however, was very poor. The best yield was 9 pounds per 30-foot row. The varieties that approached nearest this yield were:—

Masterpiece—C.E.F. No. 2746. Bountiful Green Bush—C.E.F. No. 2825. Extra Early Valentine—C.E.F. No. 1479. Refugee—C.E.F. 1631.

Peas-Variety Test

Variety	Source	Ready for use	Length vine	Length pod	Peas per pod	Yield of Green pods per 30-ft. row
English Wonder Thomas Laxton Stratagem. Advances. American Wonder "B". McLean Advancer—Gregory Surprise. Gradus—Am. Wonder. Gradus. Danby Stratagem. English Wonder. Gregory Surprise and English	McDonald. Graham C. E. F.	July 10 18 Aug. 9 18 18 18 29 29 28 28 28 18	12 24 24 24 18 20 36 36 18	Inches  2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 2 2 4 2	5 6 5 5 5 4 5 6 6 8 6 · ·	1.b. 9 18 2 9 10 9 14 7 11 10 1 10 1 10 1 10 1 10 1 10 1 1
Wonder Laxton Progress Lincoln Lincoln Seedling No. 1 Seedling No. 2 Seedling No. 3 Seedling No. 6 Seedling No. 8	" Morse, C. E. F	" 19 " 19 " 20 " 28 " 27 " 27 " 21	30 12 24 24 28 18 30 30	243332422	4 6 7 6 8 6 8 6 4	9 11=1 10=1 10=1 10=1 10=1 10=1 10=1 10=

All sown May 3rd, 30-ft. rows, 30 in. apart and 2 in. apart in row.

#### POTATOES-VARIETY TESTS

Variety	Percentage marketable	Average size of tubers	Yield per acre	Remarks
			bus.	
Extra Ey. Eureka. Epicure. Houghton Rose. Country Gentleman Irish Cobbler. Burnaby Mammoth Wee McGregor. Early Hebron. Carter Favourite. American Wonder. Duke of York. King Edward. Ashleaf Kidney. Early Ohio. Duchess of Norfolk.	80 95 80 80 80 85 80 78 85 65 70	Medium Fairly large Large Large Medium Large Large Large Large Small Small to medium Medium Medium Medium Medium	473 551 532 358 435 493 474 493 454 532 348 454 532 358 416	White, considerable top. White, considerable top. Rose, little rough. Rose, little rough. White, fairly smooth. Red, rough, considerable top. White, fairly smooth. Rose, considerable top. White, many small. White, rough, considerable top. Russet, early, very smooth, many small. White with rose tint, smooth. White, many small. Rose, fairly smooth. White, considerable top, many small

Planted May 20. Duke of York and Early Ohio earliest varieties. Duchess of Norfolk latest. Crop, on the whole, was good.

#### DIFFERENT DATES OF PLANTING POTATOES TO OBTAIN BEST YIELDS

Date planted	Average of six 30-ft. rows
	lb.
May 14 May 27. June 3. June 13.	26 17 22 10

Planted in rows 30 inches apart; spaced 18 inches apart in row.

CABBAGE—DIFFERENT DATES OF SOWING FOR STORAGE PURPOSES

Variety	Date sown	Weight of 10 heads	Remarks
		lb.	
do do do Ex. Am. Dan. Ballhead do do do do	May 27	89·2 65·4 58·3 46·3	Large, splitting, too hard. Large, splitting, too hard. Medium size, a few too hard. Small, but good for storage. Much too small, not marketable. Fair size, hard. Fair size, hard. Small, but good for storing. Very small. Did not head up well.

All planted in 30 foot rows, duplicated, spaced 30 inches by 18 inches.

### TOMATOES-VARIETY TEST

Twenty-one varieties tested. Seeded in hotbed March 29. Transplanted to flats April 10 to April 14. Planted out June 17. They were staked and pruned to one or two stems per plant. Season too cool for tomatoes. A few ripe tomatoes were secured from the following varieties: John Baer, Bonny Best, Burbank, Earliest Market, and Alacrity. Burbank was highest yielder. Bonny Best, Danish Export, and Alacrity were next, in the order mentioned.

# **GROUNDS**

The planting of trees and shrubs for windbreaks and for decorative purposes has been continued. The shelter-belts on the north and west sides of the buildings have been filled out chiefly with ash, elm, evergreens, and caragana. A considerable number of ornamental shrubs were planted at various points about the buildings.

Annual flowers, comprising over sixty varieties, were planted about the grounds. The season, on the whole, was favourable for the growth of annual flowers, so that there was an abundance of bloom during the months of July, August and early September. Sweet peas did particularly well. Many of the varieties continued to bloom from early July until the end of September.

About two acres were seeded down for lawn. The seed mixture consisted of Kentucky blue grass and white Dutch clover. Some trouble was experienced from a rank growth of weeds before the grass got started. Frequent clipping with the mower kept the weeds down fairly well, and at the end of the season a good, thick stand of grass was well established.

#### CEREALS

The work with cereals consists of testing strains and varieties of spring and winter wheat, spring and winter rye, oats, barley, peas, flax, and some mixtures for yield, earliness, and general adaptability. Two general methods of variety testing are in use; namely, rod rows and fiftieth-acre plots. In the rod-row work all varieties are sown in three-row plots one rod in length, replicated four times. At harvest time only the centre row of the three is used for record purposes. A large number of strains and varieties are given preliminary trial in the rod rows.

A smaller number of the better-known varieties are grown in the fiftieth-acre plots. All plots are triplicated and borders are removed prior to harvest time. The following tables present the data secured from the cereal plots in 1924. These figures should be used with even more caution than is usual with single-year data, because, owing to the drought in July, inequalities of soil were brought to light which probably would not have been noticed in a year of abundant rainfall.

COMMON SPRING WHEATS GROWN ON CORN-STUBBLE LAND
1/50-acre plots—triplicated. All sown May 13 on spring-disked and harrowed corn stubble.

Variety	Date Ripe	Length Straw	Average Yield of Triplicates		Remarks
-	Ripe	Straw	Per plot	Per acre	
		inches	lbs.	bush.	
Red Fife	<b>1</b> " 22	29	25 · 58 25 · 16 25 · 00	21·17 21·04 20·83	3% tip-burned. 6% tip-burned.
Early Red FifeRed Bobs TriumphMarquis Ottawa 15	" 22 " 22	27 25	24·33 22·78	20·41 19·26	19% tip-burned. 26% tip-burned.
Marquis (E. Northcott) Golden Kota	ZZ		22 · 16 19 · 55 15 · 33		26% lip-burned. 26% tip-burned.

Common Spring Wheat varieties on Spring-ploughed Wheat-Land Stubble 1/50-acre plots—triplicated.

Variety	Date Ripe	Length Straw	Average Yield of Triplicates		Remarks		
	, retpe	Straw	Per plot	Per acre	acre		
		inches	lbs.	bush.			
*Producer O-197 Kitchener	Aug. 23 Sept. 1	24 22	24·91 23·91	10·77 19·92	Sawfly	damage	
*Garnet O-197 Kota Red Bobs Supreme	Aug. 21	27 26 22	23·12 22·50 22·08	19·26 18·81 18·25	".	"	1% 1%
Red Fife	Sept. 22	24 24	21.62 20.25	18·01 16·84	"	6 <b>6</b>	1% 2%
Marquis O-15 Early Red Fife*	" 30	22 22 <b>26</b>	20 · 12 19 · 58 18 · 25	17·85 16·31 15·33	"	"	4%
*Brownie O-491*Four new varieties.	" 21	25	10.83	9.07	"	"	5%

Norgs—Although the seedings of all varieties were made in triplicate upon what appeared, according to previous crops, to be quite uniform land, some irregularities in stand developed as a result of the dry weather in July. The yields in 1924, therefore, should not be regarded as indicative of the relative merits of the varieties under test.

# DURUM WHEAT VARIETIES ON SPRING-PLOUGHED WHEAT STUBBLE

Plots 1/50-acre-triplicated. All sown May 12 on land that was fall-burned, spring-ploughed, harrowed, etc.

Variety	Date Ripe	Length Straw	Average Yield of Triplicates		Remarks	
	Tupe	Suaw	Per plot   Per acre			
		inches	lbs.	bush.		
Kubanka Ottawa 37 Kubanka U. of Sask. Acme, U. of Sask.	" 25	32 32 25	25.66 24.75 22.59	21·38 20·61 18·95	2% sawfly damage.	

#### DURUM WHEAT VARIETIES ON CORN STUBBLE

1/50-acre plots-triplicated. All sown on corn-land, spring-disked and harrowed, etc. All sown May 13.

Variety	Date Ripe	Length	Average yield of Triplicates		
Variety	Date Type	Straw	Per plot	Per acre	
Kubanka, U. of SaskAcme, U. of Sask Kubanka O -37	Aug. 29 29	inches 31 28 30	lb. 24 · 66 23 · 75 21 · 83	bus. 20·55 19·76 18·18	

# WINTER WHEAT—TEST OF VARIETIES OR STRAINS

1/40-acre plots—duplicated—all sown on fallow on September 1, with exception of Alberta Red, which was sown on September 10.

#### All protected through winter with straw mulch.

Variety	Date Ripe	Height at Harvest	Yield Grain per acre	Remarks
Alberta Red. Broatch's Winter Wheat Belgolina. Kanred Montana No. 2 Montana No. 36. Kanmont Montana No. 7. Sevier. Koffaid	" 28 " 28 " 28 " 28	inches 38 42 38 38 38 38 38		Winter killed Winter killed

# Not protected through winter.

Broatch's	Aug. 30	42	11 - 31	Very weedy: 60% winter killed
Alberta Red				Winter killed

# Oats—Test of Varieties or Strains

1/50-acre plots-triplicated. Sown May 20 on spring-disked corn stubble.

We win to	Data Dia	Height	Average of Triplicates	
Variety	Date Ripe	at Harvest	Yield of Grain per acre	
ictory fold Rain ferlach A. C. No. 3 lole A. C. No. 72 hundens	" 30 " 30 " 19 " 19	inches 33 39 39 31 30 37 33	bus. 59·55 52·31 51·82 47·05 45·07 43·34	
bundance laubeney laska anner anner ongfellow O -478.	" 21. " 19. " 19. " 29. " 29. " 29. " 29. " 29. "	33 30 33 39 39 36	42·76 42·23 39·33 34·64 33·04 3 <sub>4</sub> ·22	

# BARLEY-TEST OF VARIETIES AND STRAINS

1/50-acre plots-triplicated-sown June 5 on spring-ploughed oat stubble.

	Average of Triplicates		
Variety	Height at Harvest	Yield of Grain per acre	
	(inches)	bus.	
Trebi O. A. C. 21 Charlottetown No. 80. Hannehen Keystone. Chinese 0-60 Bearer 0 - 475. Junior 0-471 Duckbill Feeder 0-561 Bark's. Albert 0-54. Guymayle.	19 24 20 16 19 18 16 21 20 20 15 21	33·40 32·29 31·59 23·78 23·42 22·65 21·52 20·83 17·44 17·09 15·08 14·99 12·23	

#### PEAS-TEST OF VARIETIES

1/50-acre plots-triplicated-sown May 27 on spring-disked corn-stubble.

		Average of Triplicates		
Variety	Date Ripe	Length Straw (inches)	Yield Peas per acre	
		(inches)	Bus.	
Carleton. Golden Vine, Sask. 625. Arthur 0-18. Canadian Field Golden Vine	Sept. 5 Aug. 25 Sept. 2 Aug. 28 Sept. 5	42 33 32 42 48	44·39 42·23 41·94 36·72 31·37	

Notes—Peas were an excellent crop this year. Seed of Carleton and Golden Vine, Sask. 625, the two greatest yielders this year, was secured from the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatcon.

Carleton is a medium early variety, having purple blossoms, and seeds of medium size, brown in colour.

Golden Vine, Sask. 625 very early, small-seeded, blossom white.

Arthur 0-18 medium-early, blossoms white in cluster at tip of coarse stem; seeds yellow and of medium size.

# FLAX-TEST OF VARIETIES

1/50-acre plots-triplicated. Sown May 30 on fallow.

:		Average of Triplicates		
Variety	Date Ripe	Height at harvest	Yield of grain per acre	
Common Novelty Crown	Sept. 9 " 9 " 6 " 9	(inches) 21 21 21 21 21	(bus.) 16·81 16·74 15·45 14·27	

Notes—Premost —Seed secured from Ottawa. A re-selection of Premost flax obtained from Minnesota Agricultural College.

Novelty —Pure-line selection from seed of supposedly Russian origin. Seed secured from Ottawa.

 Sask. 272; seed obtained from Central Experimental Farm which originally received it from University of Saskatchewan. Crown

Common-Home-grown. Seed obtained from commercial seed house in 1922.

FALL RYE-TEST OF VARIETIES

All varieties were sown on September 1, on 1/50-acre plots, in duplicate.

Variety	Source of Seed	Date of Ripening	Height	Yield of grain per acre
Dakold Swedish No. 669. Dakold No. 295. Advance No. 668. Rosen Rosen No. 299.	Univ. of Sask. Univ. of Sask. Univ. of Sask. Home-Grown	Aug. 3 " 5 " 4 " 4 " 5	(inches) 51 50 51 49 56 48	(bus.)  46.64  44.19  43.96  42.85  41.29  36.38

Notes—All varieties made quick growth after seeding. All wintered well, with the exception of one plot of Rosen No. 299. Winter was mild: Fall rye was favoured considerably by rains during the early part of this year.

#### WHEAT AND FLAX-COMBINATION CROP

1/50-acre plots, replicated six times. All sown on well-prepared breaking on May 13.

Crop	Wheat	Flax	Height a	t Harvest	Yield of grain per acre Average 6 plots	
0.0p			Wheat	Flax	Wheat	Flax
Wheat alone Flax alone Wheat and Flax Wheat and Flax Wheat and Flax	1b. 70 — 50 35 25	1b. 30 10 15 20	(inches) 33 	(inches)	(bu.) 28·84 	(bu.) 

Note—First year for this experiment. It will be continued in future on stubble-land as well as on fallow.

# FORAGE CROPS

Under this division the experimental work consists chiefly of testing, for yield, hardiness, drought resistance and quality, a great many varieties and strains of all of the forage crops which show any possibility of being successful under southern Saskatchewan conditions. In addition to variety testing, cultural work with some of the forage crops is carried out.

In the forage-crop work particular attention is being given to the testing of strains and selections of corn, in the hope that this crop may be so developed as to occupy a more useful place in the agriculture of southwestern Saskatchewan.

The 1924 data from forage crop experiments are presented in the following

pages:-

INDIAN CORN-VARIETY TEST FOR ENSILAGE PURPOSES

Swift Current	<b>V</b> ariety	Source of Seed	eight at Harvest	Stage at	% Dry	Aver	er Acre.
Swift			Heig Ha	Maturity	Matter	Green Wt.	Dry Wt.
			inches			lb.	lb.
66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 80 82	N. D. Wh. Flint. Gehu No. 1. Improved Squaw. Burleigh County Mixed. Minnesota No. 13. N. D. Wh. Flint. N. W. Dent. Gehu. Disco N. W. Dent. Quebec No. 28. N. W. Dent. Compton's Early. N. W. Dent. Leaming, late maturing. Gehu No. 2 90-day. N. W. Dent. Hybrid. Leaming Wisconsin No. 7. Leaming. Wisconsin No. 7. Leaming. Wisconsin No. 7. Leaming. Compton's Early N. W. Dent. Compton's Early N. W. Dent. Compton's Early N. W. Dent. Hybrid. Leaming Wisconsin No. 7. Leaming. Wisconsin No. 7. Visconsin No. 7. Leaming. Wisconsin No. 7. Leaming. Lea	Home-grown Home-grown Home-grown Home-grown Hoffmann, Maple Creek. Unsworth, Piapot. Cleophas, Bienfait. Abbott, Maple Creek Cleophas, Bienfait. Frisby, Estevan Abbott, M. Creek. Hamilton, Empress Rowles, Empress Home-grown Home-grown Home-grown Home-grown Home-grown Home-grown Home-grown Home-grown Awise Seed Co. Home-grown Steel-Briggs McKenzie Seed Co. Home-grown A Wimple John Parks J. O. Duke. J. O. Duke. J. O. Duke. A. Wimple J. O. Duke. A. Wimple McKenzie- N. D. grown J. O. Duke. A. Wimple Macdonald College. Fredericton. J. O. Duke.	55 60 51 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50	Late dough. Dough Ripe Glazing Late dough. Late dough. Late dough. Dough Late silk Late dough Clazing. Early milk. Early milk. Late dough Milk Milk Milk Milk Late dough	23 · 04 18 · 74 19 · 24 22 · 55 21 · 16 23 · 70 27 · 548 25 · 75 23 · 76 28 · 80 21 · 94 21 · 39 20 · 50 18 · 74 14 · 66 18 · 82 14 · 88 19 · 85 20 · 20 16 · 54 17 · 26 17 · 26 17 · 26 18 · 63 17 · 26 17 · 26 18 · 80 18 · 76 18 · 63 19 · 54 19 · 54 19 · 54 19 · 54 19 · 54 11 · 26 17 · 26 18 · 85 18 · 85 18 · 85 18 · 85 18 · 85 19 · 15 19 · 46 17 · 26 18 · 63 18 · 63 17 · 26 18 · 63 18 · 85 18 · 85	29756 28896 24768 24768 24252 25800 22876 25800 24424 26144 25628 26316 23994 25972 26402 27778 32336 31100 24424 26318 31100 24424 25972 27778 32336 33110 24424 26318 31100 24224 31390 30368 30160 30368 30160 30368 30160 30368 30160 30368 30368 30444 30368 30186 30444 30368	6855 5115 4765 5468 5469 6183 6304 6057 6229 6211 4877 5773 5132 4838 4992 5694 6059 2597 5948 5511 4926 5906 5238 4977 5238 5417 4977 5238 5411 4813 4710 5354 6924 6350 5176 5694 5695 5775 5775 5775 5775 5775 5775 5775
84 85 86 87 88 90	Disco Longfellow	Dak. Imp. Seed Co	64	Dough Dough Dough Dough Late dough. Milk	18 · 08 19 · 24 18 · 80 18 · 63 20 · 50 19 · 13	27434 27950 26402 32852 25112 30562	4959 5377 4023 6119 5147 5890
91 92	N. Dakota	G. S. Carter Steele-Briggs		Silking Silking	18 · 69 16 · 65	30014 32986	<b>5611</b> 5741

On May 21, 46 varieties and strains of corn were sown in rows 42 inches apart and 72½ feet long. Owing to the cool season, germination and growth were slow, with the result that few of the strains reached maturity. All strains were harvested on September 21. The strains under test vary widely in the length of time required to reach maturity. Some of the late varieties, while yielding well in green weight, fell considerably below the earlier varieties in yield of dry matter. The value of corn for ensilage purposes is determined almost wholly by the yield of dry matter per acre.

Indian Corn-Rows vs. Hills-1924

-		Spacing		Average Yield of Triplicates			
Variety	Method	or plants per bill	Height when cut	Green Weight per Acre	Per cent Dry Matter	Dry Weight Per Acre	
·		inches	inches	lb.	%	lb.	
	Rows 42" apart. Rows 42" apart. Rows 42" apart Rows 42" apart Rows 42" apart Rows 42" apart Hills 42" x 42"	3 6 9 12 18 plants 1 2 3 4	58 58 58 58 57 61 61 61 60 57	13440 13330 15623 16569 16090 14190 17343 16454 14620 13846	19.58 15.32 16.92 16.49 16.71 16.38 18.58 19.69 20.50	2631 2042 2643 2732 2688 2324 3222 3239 2997 2374	
N. D. White Flint "	Rows 42" apart Hills 42" x 42"	inches 3 6 9 12 18 plants	54 54 53 53 53 53 55 55 55	16397 20410 17458 18776 15451 12427 14749 17372 19221 12864	16·38 14·72 16·92 14·17 18·03 16·76 18·86 17·53 17·26 18·36	2685 3004 2955 2660 2785 2082 2785 3044 3317 2361	

In the corn planting experiment not only are rows and hills in standard rates of planting compared, but spacing in rows varying from 3 inches to 18 inches and plants per hill varying from one to five are under test. Two varieties, namely North Western Dent and North Dakota White Flint, are used; the former for fodder production and the latter for seed production. Due to the unfavourable season for ripening corn, both varieties were harvested for fodder purposes. The accompanying table shows the yields of both green and dry material for the various treatments:—

SUNFLOWERS-VARIETY TEST

	Source of Seed	Height when cut		Average yield of quadruplicates		
Variety or Strain			Stage when cut	Green Wt. per acre	% dry matter	Dry Wt. per acre
		(inches)		lb.		lb.
Mammoth Russian	C.P.R	61	Late bloom	21122	19.77	4178
Manchurian	McKenzie	59	Late bloom	18131	19.40	3517
Mixed	. C.P.R	58	Late bloom	20057*	$19 \cdot 04$	3158*
Manchurian	. C.P.R	56	Late bloom	20320*	19.24	3916*
Ottawa No. 76	. C.E.F	57	Late bloom	19597* ]	19.87	3893*
Black		56	Late bloom	25006*	$17 \cdot 67$	4418
Manteca		54	Late bloom		19.43	4843
Mennonite			Seeds ripng.		19.60	3504
Mammoth Russian			4% bloom	24088	18.08	4369
Russian Giant	. Dak. Imp. Sd. Co	69	3% bloom	21576	17.86	3853
	1	}	}			

<sup>\*</sup>Average of triplicates.

Ten varieties of sunflowers were sown on May 30 in 72½-foot rows in a quadruplicate test. All, with the exception of Manchurian, are of the straight stem type, the Manchurian being multi-branching. Mennonite, the earliest and shortest variety, was ready to cut about August 15; the remainder were in bloom or beginning to bloom early in September.

SUNFLOWERS-HILLS VS. Rows

	Height	Average yield of duplic		
Spacing, etc.	when cut	Green Weight per acre	Dry Weight per acre	
	(inches)	lb.	lb.	
Rows 42" apart 3" apart in <b>R</b> ow	74	34700 23677 24811	6590 6360 4779	
" 12" "	79 79	22360 19909	4245 4174	
Hills 42" x 42" 1 plant per hill	80 75	16848 21027 21070	2824 3854 4161	
" 4 " 5 "	75 75	24639 26101	5059 5084	

An experiment of planting sunflowers in hills and in rows was carried out for the same purpose and in the same way as with the Corn, Hills vs. Rows Experiment. Russian Giant was the variety used. All plots were sown on May 29 and harvested on September 8. It will be seen that the heaviest sowings whether in hills or rows give the maximum yields. It was observed also that sunflowers grown thickly in rows or hills produced plants with the shortest and thinnest stems, and a crop somewhat the easiest to handle in the field or at the silo.

ANNUAL HAY CROPS-VARIETY TEST

Variety	Height at Harvest	Stage when cut	Average weight per acre of triplicates		
	narvest		green weight	dry weight	
Spring rye. Oats and peas. Oats. E.A. sugar cane. Hubam. Sudan grass. Teff grass. Hungarian millet. Hog millet. Siberian millet. Common millet.	inches 33 42 42 33 41 42 21 26 31 26 26	bloom. oats in milk milk heading 75% bloom seed formed seed formed early bloom seeds ripening heading out. heading out.	1b. 7451 15366 12683 12066 14866 9216 9050 8883 8666 7456 6866	1b. 2624 4307 4245 2703 4105 2103 3854 3206 3251 2953	

HUNGARIAN MILLET-RATES AND DATES OF SEEDING

Rate sown per acre	Date Sown	Green weight per acre	Per cent dry matter	Dry weight per acre
lbs.		lbs.		lbs.
5	May 20	7800	41.57	3242
15	May 20	7800	40.85	3186
25	May 20	7600	41.00	3116
5	June 4	7000	39.47	2762
15	June 4	7600	$32 \cdot 10$	2439
25	June 4	6600	39.53	2608
5	June 17	8800	38.32	3372
15	June 17	7800	34.95	2726
25	June 17	7000	36.17	2531

The experiment in rates and dates of sowing Hungarian millet is laid out in  $\frac{1}{100}$ -acre plots and triplicated. Growth was not very rapid during the early part of the season. By July 24, plots sown on May 20 had reached a height of 15 inches; June 4 seeding, 12 inches; and June 17 seeding, 8 inches. The lighter sowings also showed more promising growth, being considerably wider in the leaf. By September 13, however, all plots had grown to a height of 24 inches, when they were harvested. Weeds were more conspicuous on the early-sown plots.

ALFALFA-VARIETY TEST-Sown on Fallow 1923

		First Cutting			Second Cutting			Total yield	
Variety	Source of Seed	/ Height	Green weight per acre		Height		Dry weight per acre	Green	Dry weight
Variegated. Turkestan. Grimm Variegated, Shoobut M. Falcata. Cossack	Commercial	19 19 18 18	lbs. 3550 2000 3150 3825 3650 2900 13050 6400 4.00	lbs. 1215 810 974 1408 1308 963 3697 2139 1423	ins. 10 13 10 11 14 16 7 14 13	lbs. 750 550 1110 825 2050 5600 1500 2150 2150	lbs. 224 167 288 199 594 1395 418 574 693	lbs. 4300 2550 4260 4650 2850 8500 14550 8550 6250	lbs. 1439 977 1262 1607 951 2358 4115 2713 2116

All varieties of alfalfa were sown alone in duplicate ½0-acre plots on June 10, 1923, on spring-ploughed wheat stubble. Weeds, particularly Russian Thistle, were somewhat troublesome during 1923. Early in the spring of 1924 the weeds were burned off with the result that the first cutting, made on July 9, was quite clean. In the second cutting, August 22, more thistles were in evidence. Due to dry weather in late July, the second cutting of most varieties was light, which gave opportunity for the thistles to develop.

ALFALFA-INOCULATION TEST

Plot	Treatment	Yield per acre— first cutting			Yield per acre— second cutting			Total yield per acre	
	Treatment	Height	Green Weight	Dry Weight	Height	Green Weight	Dry Weight	Green Weight	Dry Weight
3 4	Not inoculated	ins. 16 17 16 16 17 16	1b. 2,750 4,050 3,450 2,600 3,050 1,850	lb. 887 1,385 1,215 944 1,046 708	ins. 10 10 10 9 10 7	lb. 400 700 550 500 800 100	lb. 118 210 148 154 238 200	lb. 3,150 4,750 4,000 3,100 3,850 1,950	lb. 1,005 1,595 1,363 1,098 1,284 908

Cara		1923 Total Yields per acre		1924 Hay Crop—Yield per acre		
Crop	Green Weight	Dry Weight	Height	Green Weight	Dry Weight	
Brome and Western Rye. Brome. Western Rye Timothy. Brome and Western rye. Kentucky Blue grass. Western rye and White sweet clover. Brome and White sweet clover. Brome and Western rye Western rye and alfalfa. Grimm alfalfa. Variegated alfalfa Brome and Western rye. Red clover. Yellow sweet clover.	4,520 6,640 1,640 4,880 1,800 7,520 6,240 6,320 6,640 3,680 6,480 Fa 7,080	1b. 2,956 1,929 3,784 800 2,920 800 1,950 2,706 3,304 2,439 1,425 3,930 ilure 2,200	24 26	1b. 2,700 3,200 3,050 2,850 2,850 1,550 1,800 4,450 3,350 3,050  2,950 Failure 3,900	974 1,736	
White sweet clover	7,848 4,800	2,770 2,552	33 24	2,500 2,050	1,091 952	

The experiment of sowing various grasses, clovers and mixtures with a nurse-crop of wheat was laid down in 1922. All grasses and legumes were seeded with wheat on May 30 of that year. Yields of hay for both 1923 and 1924 are given. In the latter year the only crop yielding a second cutting was yellow sweet clover, which produced 1050 pounds of green material and 268 pounds of dry matter per acre. Plots containing either brome or western rye, or both, while they could not be cut a second time for hay, would have produced a fair amount of late pasture.

VARIETY TESTS OF ROOTS

<u> </u>	VARIETY TESTS OF ROOTS					
Variety	Per- centage stand	Yield roots per acre				
,	Mangels—Variety test for yield and purity					
Svalof Original Alfa Svalof Red Red Eckendorfer		78 95 94 79 87	1b. 25,070 24,150 23,000 22,770 22,540			
	Carrots—Variety test for yield and purity					
Champion	A. E. McKenzie Seed Co		13, 340 13, 110 12, 650 12, 190 11, 960			
Turnips—Variety test for yield and purity						
Halewoods Bronze Top	A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Steel Briggs Seed Co. A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Nappan Experimental Station. Wm. Ewing Seed Co.		22,540 22,080 21,850 20,240 20,010			
	Sugar Beets-Variety test for yield and purity					
Vilmorins Imperial	Dominion Sugar Beet Co	88 92 100 91 96	14,720 12,880 12,880 11,960 9,890			

A total of 29 varieties of mangels; 12 varieties of carrots; 23 varieties of turnips and 8 varieties of sugar beets are under test. Only the finest, highest-yielding varieties of each are here reported. Yields of other varieties ranged from the figures given in the table down to 7,130 pounds per acre of mangels, 3,910 of carrots, 13,340 of turnips and 9,890 of sugar beets. Although the greater part of the season was cool it was unfavourable for the growth of root crops on account of the limited rainfall. All of the roots were sown between May 14 and May 17 on spring-ploughed stubble land. They were cultivated three times during the season and harvested between October 13 and 15.

# BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS

During the summer of 1924 the following building were erected:

(1) A piggery 19 feet by 46 feet, containing three pens and a feed-room, with a straw loft over the feed-room and one pen. The building has a concrete floor and foundation. Each pen is fitted with a wooden sleeping platform. Provision is made for heating the farrowing pen, so as to take care of early spring litters.

(2) A second poultry house 16 feet by 32 feet, temporarily fitted to provide

incubator and brooder rooms, was built near the building erected in 1922.

(3) A concrete root cellar 24 feet long, 12 feet wide, and 8 feet high, was built in a location convenient to the garden. The cellar is covered with three feet of earth, and ventilation is provided by means of two ten-inch flues.

(4) A combination greenhouse and hotbed with a concrete wall and glass roof was built. This structure is 24 feet long and 12 feet wide. Attached to one end of the greenhouse is a frame shack 10 feet by 12 feet for use as a potting and transplanting room.

(5) Two small, portable granaries, each 10 feet by 12 feet, were built. The

use of these eliminated all necessity of hauling wheat at threshing time.