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# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE DOMINION EXPERIMENTAL FARMS

### EXPERIMENTAL STATION

SWIFT CURRENT, SASK.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

J. G. TAGGART, B.S.A.

FOR THE YEAR 1925



Twelve-foot cultivator drawn by eight horses. Cultivates twenty-six to thirty acres per day.

Printed by Authority of the Hon. W. R. Motherwell, Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa, 1926

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### DOMINION EXPERIMENTAL STATION, SWIFT CURRENT, SASK.

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

#### NOTES ON THE SEASON

The outstanding feature of the crop season of 1925 was the large carry-over of soil-moisture from the previous autumn. The unusually heavy rainfall of

October, 1924, made a very important contribution to the 1925 crops.

The heavy snowfall of early winter disappeared rapidly during the first week of April. Disking and similar work on the land began on April 11; wheat-seeding was started on April 17 and concluded on May 2. April rainfall was above the average, but the distribution was such that work was not seriously delayed.

Although the May rainfall was light, moisture and temperature conditions were favourable to very rapid growth, with the result that all crops made excellent progress during the early part of the season. The probability of very heavy crops gradually diminished with continued hot, dry weather during June and

Julv

Wheat-cutting started on July 31 and was concluded on August 11. Harvest weather on the whole was favourable, so that cutting, threshing, silo-filling, and stacking feed proceeded rapidly until all such work was completed on the Station on September 20. Yields of most crops were fairly satisfactory. Wheat yields ranged from 14 to 28 bushels per acre, oats from 30 to 50, rye 18 to 24; sunflowers yielded from 8 to 12 tons per acre, and corn yields ranged from 6 to 10 tons. Due to the abundance of moisture in the early spring, tame hay crops were unusually good; yields ranged from one to two and a half tons per acre.

The month of October was one of the worst harvest months ever known in Saskatchewan. Rain, snow, and low temperatures prevailed for the greater part of the month, so that farmers who had not completed their threshing early in the season experienced serious delay and loss. The greater part of November and December proved to be fine, so that threshing was eventually finished, but in most cases with a loss of one or two grades and an additional deduction for tough

or damp grain.

METEOROLOGICAL RECORD FOR SWIFT CURRENT, SASK., 1925

	Temperature			Precipitation	[	}	Wind
Month	High	Low	Mean	10" snow=1" rain	Evaporation	Sunshine	Total miles
	°F	°F	°F	inches	inches	hours	
January February February Arch April May June July August September October November December	97 86 97 93 87 60	-30 -16 -17 24 18 37 38 40 24 -05 -11 -23	16.8 29.6 20.5 43.5 53.0 58.0 66.0 63.0 55.0 29.0 27.7 19.6	0·15 0·14 0·83 2·18 0·91 1·30 1·54 1·88 1·99 0·65 0·06	4·72 4·65 6·79 6·57 3·21	90·0 97·7 141·5 196·3 241·8 234·3 271·0 239·7 143·0 99·7 104·5 69·5	5,722 5,357 4,807 5,360 4,767 5,167
Totals				11.44	25.94	1,929.0	61,180

 Last spring frost.
 May 15

 First fall frost.
 Sept. 20.

 Frost-free period.
 128 days.

 Rainfall during April, May, June and July,
 5-93 inches.

#### DATES OF FARM OPERATIONS, 1925

·	Began	Finished
Vork on land (first and last dates)	April 11	Oct. 14
Seeding wheat	April 17 May 4	May 2 May 7
Seeding sunflowers	May 22	May 22
Beeding corn	May 21	May 25
Seeding fall rye	Aug. 3	Aug. 4
Spring ploughing	April 13	May 2
loughing summer-fallow	May 28	June 16
Cutting hay	July 11	July 14
Cutting fall rye	July 18	July 20
Cutting wheat	July 31	Aug. 11
Cutting oats	Aug. 14	Aug. 22
perating Combine	Aug. 20	Aug. 28
Cutting corn	Sept. 10 Sept. 10	Sept. 14 Sept. 10
Cutting sunflowers	July 30	Sept. 10
ThreshingFall ploughing	Sept. 28	Oct. 14

#### ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

#### HORSES

Early in 1925, a driver and two work horses were purchased, bringing the total number up to twenty-two. Shortly after spring work started, an epidemic of influenza broke out among the horses, resulting in the death of two good, young horses. The epidemic was checked by the inoculation of all the horses with a combination serum.

Apart from the time of the influenza and an occasional lameness, there was

no loss of working time among the horses.

Fall work was finished somewhat earlier than usual this year, and all idle horses were turned into the stubble-fields. At the end of the year, the horses are still running outside, getting only what feed they can pick up.

#### CATTLE

The Shorthorn herd now numbers fourteen; of which seven are cows and heifers of breeding age, three are bulls, and four calves. During the year two young bulls and two heifers were sold for breeding purposes, and ten old cows

and young animals unsuitable for breeding were sold for beef.

In June, eight head of Holsteins were transferred from the Central Farm at Ottawa to this Station. A young bull and three of the females are pure-bred; the other females are grade. It is the intention to build up a small herd of strictly dairy cattle. Records of costs and returns will be kept and surplus stock will be sold to farmers for breeding purposes.

#### STEER-FEEDING

Twenty-four three-year-old steers were purchased from James MacDougald, of Maple Creek, on October 22, 1924. The steers were shipped to Swift Current and were pastured in the stubble-fields until December 1. They were then put into the feeding-corral and were fed ensilage, oat straw, and grain consisting of equal parts by weight of oats, barley, rye, and wheat screenings. The wheat screenings consisted largely of cracked and shrunken wheat which was cleaned out of seed wheat.

The feeding-corral is surrounded by a board fence eight feet high, and at one end there is a straw shelter with an eight-foot opening on the south side. The shelter is large enough to allow all the steers to lie down in it at once. The shelter was bedded with wheat straw.

The weather was extremely cold and windy during the early part of the season. This caused the steers some discomfort and evidently had an adverse effect on the rate and economy of gain.

Feed-racks were kept filled with oat straw, while the ensilage and chop were

mixed and fed twice a day.

On March 25, the steers were shipped to Winnipeg, where they were assembled with other Experimental Farm cattle and shipped to Manchester, England.

The following table presents the data on costs, weights, gains, returns and

profits:-

•			
21 steers.       24,140 lbs. at \$4.50.         3 steers.       3,750 lbs. at \$4.25.			30 35
Total weight		33	75
Cost of 24 steers at Swift Current	. \$	1,279	40
WINTER FEEDING COST			
83 tons ensilage at \$3.50	. \$	290	
6 tons oat straw at \$3			00
25,536 lbs. grain at 1½c	٠_	383	04
Cost of feed	. \$	691	54
All charges 20 steers Swift Current to Manchester, at \$49.05		981	
Total	. \$	2,951	94
Weights and Gains—		•	-
Average gain per steer	_	138⋅3 lk	
Total gain		320 · 0 lk	
Gross weight when shipped	3	1,210 lt	)8.
4 steers sold at Swift Current	\$	210	22
20 steers sold at Manchester		2,884	
	-		
M-4-14	\$	3,095	
Total cost		2,951	¥4
Profit	\$	143	08
Profit per head.	. •		96

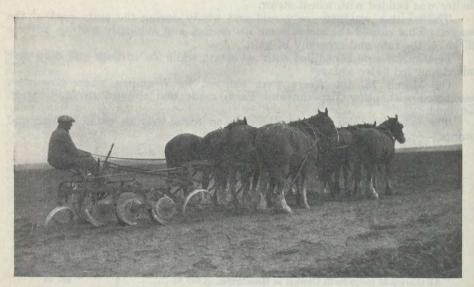
#### SWINE

As intimated in the 1924 report, a small beginning has been made with Tamworth swine. Owing to the failure of one of the sows to breed, only seven pigs were raised, of which two were sows. Two boars were castrated and three were raised and sold to farmers for breeding purposes. Early in November, one of the original sows produced a litter of thirteen pigs, all of which have been raised. The two young sows have been bred to farrow in the early spring. With the numbers now on hand, there will be a good-sized herd of Tamworths in a very short time.

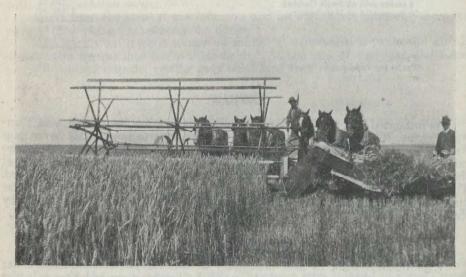
#### FIELD HUSBANDRY

Experimental work in field husbandry at this Station is conducted under three sets of conditions. Each of these will be briefly described here in order that the data which follow may be more intelligible.

As mentioned in previous reports, rotations, costs of producing crops, and cultural methods for wheat-production are being investigated in fields varying in size from two to seven acres. In addition to the work on field-areas, a great



Three-furrow 14-inch gang-plough drawn by eight horses. Ploughs seven to eight acres per day.



Push binder. This machine will harvest twenty-five to thirty acres per day.

variety of field husbandry problems are being studied by the use of fiftieth-acre plots. On the plots, all the field work is repeated; in addition, there are many other experiments for which larger space is not available.

The third set of conditions is found on a farm which is rented for the purpose of studying methods of controlling weeds, soil-drifting and related troubles, on land which has been cropped to wheat for twenty years. A full description of the conditions and of the work on this farm is contained in one section of this report.

In attempting to make a comparison of yields, the reader of this report must keep in mind the fact that, as outlined here, the experiments are being conducted under a variety of conditions, hence the yields given for one experiment must not be compared with those given for another experiment even though the crops are grown under the same cultural treatment.

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

Rotation	Crop	Yield per acre		Value of		Cost		Profit or loss per acre			
Year	Оюр	1925	Average 3 years	Crop, 1925		Produc- tion 1925		1925		Average 3 years	
		tons	tons	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
1	Corn	5.34 bush.	6.5 bush.		18 69		13 93		4 76		4 99
2	Wheat	22·2	23·5 tons		29 97		12 60	1	7 37		16 32
3 4	Hay	0·93 0·55	1.18		9 30 5 50		6 50 3 26		2 80 2 24		3 25
4 (a) 5	Fallow following hay Wheat	bush. $24.0$	bush. 24·1		32 40	••••	15 40	1	· · · · · 7 00	••••	14 65
7	Fall rye	bush. 24·0	bush. 24.5		18 00	•••••	16 34	• • • • • •	1 66		3 62
	Average, per acre				16 26		9 72		6 <b>5</b> 5		6 12

Field 1.—Corn was grown on land which produced a crop of fall rye in 1924. A considerable amount of volunteer rye grew up with the corn, and its eradication added to the cost of the corn.

Field 2.—Garnet wheat seeded on corn stubble. A mixture of western rye, brome and sweet clover was seeded with the wheat.

Field 3.—The stand of hay was fairly good. The heavy rain of October, 1924, was without doubt the decisive factor, as there was very little precipitation during the growing season.

Field 4.—The second-year hay crop was cut late in June and the sod ploughed up immediately. Sweet clover, being a biennial crop, did not grow, and thereby reduced the yield.

Field 5.—Garnet wheat grown on fallow. In 1924, the second-year growth of hay was very poor, so the land was ploughed early in June.

Field 7.—Fall rye grown on fallow. The costs of the fallow have been charged to the crop.

### THREE-YEAR ROTATION—FALLOW, WHEAT, WHEAT Summary of Yields, Value and Profit and Loss, per Acre

Rotation	· Claur	Yield per acre		Value of	Cost	Profit or loss per acre		
Year	Crop	1925	Average two years	Crop 1925	Produc- tion 1925	1925	Average two years	
				\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	
$\begin{smallmatrix}1\\2\\3\end{smallmatrix}$	Fallow. Wheat. Wheat.	20·5 13·5	27·55 20·5	27 68 18 23				
	Average, per acre			15 30	9 37	5 93	12 11	

The three-year rotation (wheat, wheat, fallow) covers an area of thirty-six acres. The costs of fallowing are charged to both wheat crops; two-thirds of the costs to the crop succeeding the fallow and the remaining one-third to the other wheat crop.

Two-Year Rotation—Fallow, Wheat
Summary of Yields, Value and Profit and Loss, per Acre

Rotation Year	Com	Yield per acre		Value of	Cost of	Profit or loss per acre			
	Crop	1925	Average three years	Crop 1925	Produc- tion 1925	1925	Average three years		
				\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.		
1	Fallow (cost charged to wheat crop)			<u>,</u>					
2	Wheat	16.6	26.2	22 41	15 96	6 45	13 60		
	Average, per acre			11 21	7 98	3 23	6 80		

The two-year rotation, (wheat, fallow), has an area of ten acres. The soil is not as good as the average on the farm and accounts for the comparatively poor showing made by this rotation.

Two-Year Rotation—Fallow, Fall Ryz Summary of Yields, Value and Profit and Loss, per acre

<b>D</b>	G	Yield per acre			Value of		Cost		Profit or loss per acre			
Rotation Year	Crop	1925	Average three years	Crop ti		oduc- ion 925	19	925	th	rage ree ars		
		bush.	bush.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	
	FallowFall rye	25	23.8		18 75		16 50		2 25		3 26	
	Average, per acre				9 38		8 25		1 13		1 63	

The fall rye and fallow rotation occupies an area of fourteen acres. The average return per acre over the whole area, for three years, is \$1.63.

#### YIELDS OF WHEAT ON PACKED AND UNPACKED LAND

			Yield per acre		
Field	Packer used	Treatment	1925	Average three years	
1	Cultipacker	Fallow ploughed, packed, cultivated through-	bush.	bush.	
2	No packer	out season, seeded, harrowed and packed.  Fallow ploughed, no packer, harrowed, cultivated throughout season, seeded and	25.71	28 · 57	
3	Surface Packer	harrowed. Fallow ploughed, packed, cultivated throughout season, seeded, harrowed and packed.	25·48 22·28	27·33 26·26	
4	Cultipacker	Spring-ploughed, harrowed, packed, seeded		,	
5	No packer	and packed	20.56	23 · 27	
6	Surface packer	harrowed	16·00 18·86	20·50 20·39	

This experiment is conducted on an area of 18 acres, in a three-year rotation of fallow, wheat, wheat. Apart from the use of two distinct types of packers, all fields, both fallow and stubble, are given uniform, standard treatments.

STUBBLE TREATMENTS FOR WHEAT-PRODUCTION

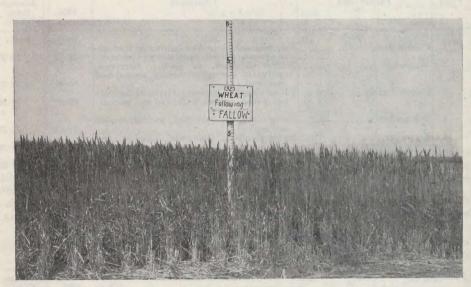
			Yield per acre		
Field	Crop	Stubble Treatment	1925	Average three years	
1	Wheek	Foll slovehed grains howeved gooded how	bush.	bush.	
1	Wheat	Fall-ploughed, spring-harrowed, seeded, har- rowed	14.00	20.68	
2	Wheat	rowed. Fall-disked, spring-ploughed, harrowed, seed-	11 00	20 00	
3	•	ed and harrowed	16.50	22.99	
۰	Wheat	Spring-ploughed, harrowed, seeded and harrowed.	18.50	23 · 23	
4	Wheat	Previous crop cut by Combine, spring-burned	10.00	20.20	
5	Wheat	and seeded	17.30	20.33	
_		disked and seeded	17.50	21 · 46	
6		Spring-burned, disked, seeded and harrowed	15.66	22.58	
7	Wheat	Spring-burned, ploughed, harrowed, seeded			
	<u> </u>	and harrowed	16.33	24 · 36	
8	Wheat	Spring-disked, seeded and harrowed	13 · 80	19-60	

This experiment covers an area of 72 acres. The three-year rotation: fallow, wheat, wheat, is followed. A uniform treatment is given in the fallow year, all the plots being ploughed early in June and cultivated throughout the season.

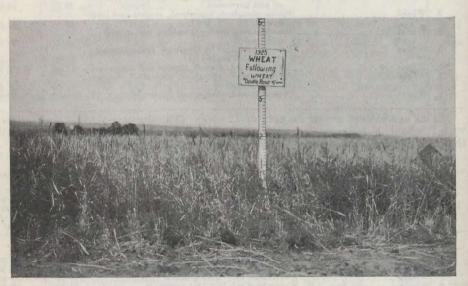
SUMMER-FALLOW TREATMENTS FOR WHEAT-PRODUCTION

		• .	Yield per acre		
Field	Crop	Fallow Treatment	1925	Average two years	
			bush.	bush.	
1	Wheat	Fall-ploughed, cultivated during fallow year.	20.00	20.50	
~	W Dest	Fall-disked, cultivated during fallow year	21.25	22 . 50	
8	Wheat	Cultivated only during fallow year	21 · 00	25.75	
3 4 5	Wheat	Cultivated till July 15; ploughed Ploughed 6" deep June 15, cultivated during	21.00	26.50	
_		fallow year	20.52	23 · 88	
		fallow, ploughed June 15, cultivated during fallow year	19 · 44	22 · 22	

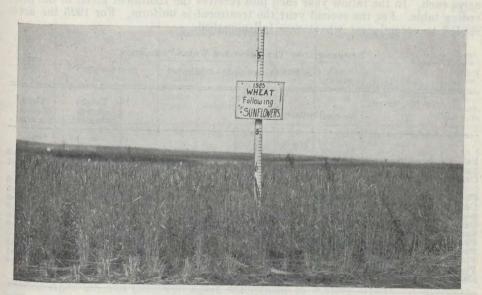
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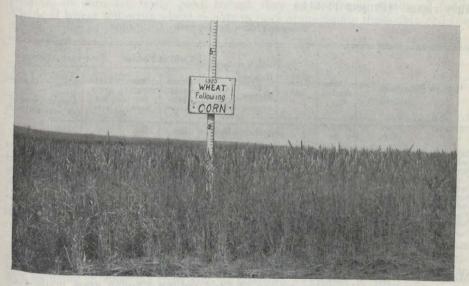
Wheat following summer-fallow.



Wheat following wheat, planted in double rows forty-two inches apart.



Wheat following sunflowers.



Wheat following corn.

This experiment is conducted in a three-year rotation on a total area of thirty-six acres. Each field of the rotation is subdivided into six plots of two acres each. In the fallow year each plot receives the treatment given in the preceding table. For the second year the treatment is uniform. For 1925 the area seeded to second-year wheat was fall-ploughed.

### SUMMER-FALLOW TREATMENT FOR WHEAT-PRODUCTION One-fiftieth-acre plots—triplicated

Treatment	Height of crop when cut	Yield of grain per acre
	in.	bush.
Fall-plough, cultivate only during fallow year. Fall-disk, cultivate only during fallow year. Cultivate in spring (after seeding) and as required until July 15. Plough, leave untilled. Plough 6" June 10, cultivate as required. Cultivate only during fallow year. Seed with second wheat crop, 5 lb. sweet clover, treat as No. 4. Burn stubble early spring, disk at once, plough June 10, cultivate as required. Early disk (before seeding) plough June 10, cultivate as required. Plough June 10, 4", cultivate as required. Plough June 10, 6", subsoil 4", cultivate as required. Plough May 15, cultivate as required. Cultivate only both fallow and stubble crops.	32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32	20.5 21.2 21.6 20.8 20.8 20.0 22.8 22.0 21.6 21.5 21.1 20.8

Wheat yields on these variously-treated fallow plots are so nearly alike that it cannot be said that there are any significant differences. In all treatments the work of preparing the fallow was started in good time and all plots were kept clean during the fallow year. All crops grown on these plots were fairly clean. (Project F. 144.)

SUMMER-FALLOW SUBSTITUTES

					Yield		Yield of Fodder		Four-year Average		
Fallow Substitute	Date seeded	Date cut	Height at harvest	of grain	Green weight per acre	Dry weight per acre	Yield grain per acre	Yield fodder green weight per acre	Yield fodder dry weight per acre		
			inches	bush.	lbs.	lbs.	bush.	lbs.	lbs.		
Potatoes—Rows 42" x 42" Sudan grass, double rows. Sunflowers, single rows Corn, single rows Oats, triple rows Oats, double rows Oats, solid, 2 bu. per acre. Wheat, double rows Oats, sown solid for hay. Barley, double rows	" 17 " 4 " 10 May 8 " 7 " 8 " 6 June 6	Aug. 15 " 15 " 15 " 18	32 32 30	32·59 37·74 23·76 11·66		3,753 2,806	46.7	15,686	4,077 3,165 3,630		

All crops in rows received two cultivations during the growing season. Many weeds, however, principally Russian thistle, grew in the rows and could only be eradicated by either hoeing or hand pulling. Sudan grass made such slow growth that the weeds almost choked it out. The factor of weed growth which cannot be removed from rows except by hand labour constitutes one of the most serious objections to row-crops under southwestern Saskatchewan conditions. (Project F. 145.)

#### WHEAT FOLLOWING FALLOW AND VARIOUS FALLOW SUBSTITUTES

Crop 1925		Yield of previous crop		Free-dom	1	Three year average yield of wheat follow-			
	Previous crop	Fodder per acre green weight	dry		from weeds at harvest	Condition of stand at harvest	Height at harvest	Yield grain per acre	ing fallow or
Wheat  " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	Potatoes, rows 42"x 18" Sudan grass, doub. ro. Sunflowers, sing. rows. Fallow. Corn, single rows Oats, triple rows Oats, double rows Oats, ½ bush. per acre. Wheat, double rows Oats for green feed Barley, double rows	5,616 21,866 16,466	1,411 4,341 2,854	51·5 42·3	100 points 85 77 85 95 85 73 70 70 66 77 66	Normal Normal Thin Thick Normal Normal Thin Normal Thin	28.7 26.0 25.3 30.0 28.0 28.0 27.3 26.6 27.3 27.3	bush.  19.0 15.9 14.8 22.5 18.5 16.1 14.5 12.8 12.8 16.4 12.2	bush.  23·3 17·4 15·6 26·3 20·0 16·9 14·1 12·0 18·2 12·7 17·4

All fallow-substitute plots were double disked April 15, harrowed April 22, seeded April 29, and harrowed again afterwards to destroy weeds. A considerable percentage of volunteer grain grew where wheat followed a crop of either oats or barley sown in rows.

If judgment is based on the above data, crops grown in rows in general cannot be considered as adequate substitutes for fallow. Yields of wheat following Potatoes or corn are fairly good, though they do not equal yields on fallow. Yields of wheat following wheat or coats in rows approximate those obtained from spring-ploughed stubble-land. (Project F. 145.)

#### CONTINUOUS WHEAT

Cons	Previous grain pe		1925 erop			
Crop	1923	1924	Height at harvest	Yield grain per acre	Quality of grain	
	bush.	bush.	inches	bush.		
Sown continuously on disked stubble	10·5 7·0	10·41 11·97	26 . 26	9·89 9·16	No. 2 No. 2	

Norm-One-fiftieth-acre plots duplicated. Sown May 2. Seventy pounds seed per acre. Ripe Aug. 4.

A very heavy crop of Russian thistle had to be raked off and burned in the spring before any other cultural work could be done. By midsummer, weeds, chiefly Russian thistle, had become very thick, and the wheat showed considerable evidence of suffering from lack of moisture. (Project F. 101.)

14
PLACE IN ROTATION TO SEED FALL RYE

Cultural method	Date ripe	Height at harvest	Grain yield per acre
		inches	lbs.
Seed on fallow Seed on ploughed barley stubble. Seed on ploughed sod(*). Seed on wheat stubble. Seed on fallow. Seed with oats. Seed after sunflowers cut. Seed after rye. Seed on fallow. Seed after corn cut. Seed one month after oats sown (conbination crop). Seed between rows of corn. Seed between rows of sunflowers.	" 21 " 19 " 21 " 18 " 20 " 19 " 19 " 20 " 20	44 40 44 40 41 40  45 43 41 40 39	21·39 14·88 22·16 13·38 17·41 11·08 16·51 15·18 19·04 14·42 12·04 13·91

<sup>\*</sup>Note.—Grass failed; seeding of rye was made on fallow.

This experiment is laid out in the form of a series of rotations so designed that the rye crop follows a variety of crops and treatments. While the best yields have been obtained from fallow, fairly good yields have been produced by some other preparations. (Project F. 153.)

RATES AND DATES OF SEEDING FALL RYE\*

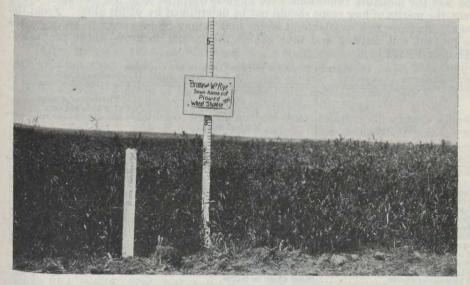
Rate sown. Bush. per acre	Date sown	Date of ripening	Height at per acre	Yield of grain harves	
\$ bushels.		" 16 " 16 " 16 " 17 " 19 " 18 " 18 " 23 " 18	41 43 45 45 46 46 46 45	bush.  18-60 18-66 20-39 19-11 23-95 24-69 23-13 27-08 33-44 22-16 19-63 16-29	
4 4	" 15 Oct. 1	" 17	44 43 43	19·56 19·86 24·39	

<sup>\*</sup>Determined from three 1/50-acre plots.

As in previous years, the July sowing produced an abundant fall growth, but resulted in a decreased yield of grain the following year. Fall rye sown on August 15 gave the highest yields. (Projects F. 157 and F. 163.)



Brome and western rye grass seeded with wheat on fallow.



Brome and western rye grass seeded alone on spring-ploughed wheat-stubble.

#### Grasses, Legumes and Mixtures Grown with a Nurse-Crop of Wheat Yields of first year hay crop

	Yield		y on basis content	of 12%
Hay crop	1923 per acre	1924 per acre	1925 per acre	Three year average per acre
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Brome and western rye (check). Brome grass. Western rye grass. Timothy. Brome and western rye (check). Kentucky blue grass. Western rye and sweet clover. Brome and sweet clover. Brome and sweet rye (check). Western rye and alfalfa. Grimm alfalfa. Grimm alfalfa. Variegated alfalfa. Brome and western rye (check). Red clover. Yellow sweet clover. White sweet clover. Brome and western rye (check).	3,064 4,397 Failed 2,418 Failed 2,043 2,987 4,248 2,495 4,748 1,604 1,952 Failed 2,522 2,391	1,774 1,853 2,227 1,518 1,843 791 2,784 2,142 1,957 1,645 3,017 3,862 2,404 1,243 2,745 2,745 3,312 2,183	2,674 2,109 2,380 2,869 2,307 1,666 2,470 1,803 2,220 2,493 1,927 2,290 2,205 Failed 2,542 1,883 2,662	2, 51: 2, 34: 3, 00: 1, 46: 2, 18: 2, 43: 2, 31: 2, 80: 2, 23: 3, 23: 2, 58: 2, 18: 2, 60: 2, 52: 2, 47: 2, 47:

The most obvious conclusion to be drawn from this experiment is that certain grasses and legumes, such as timothy, Kentucky blue grass, and red clover, are not satisfactory hay crops. No crop in this trial produced what might be considered a good crop of hay, and this despite the fact that in the seasons of the test the moisture conditions were more favourable than the average. However, the merits of hay crops should not be determined by yields alone. From the scanty evidence now available, it seems that it may be necessary to grow grasses to prevent soil drifting and thus enable the farmer to grow wheat profitably. (Project F. 172.)

PLACE IN ROTATION TO SEED GRASSES AND CLOVERS

		Three-year average yields per acre			
Hay crop	crop Method used		Corn green weight per acre	Cured hay per acre	
		bush.	lbs.	lbs.	
Brome and western rye. Brome and western rye. Brome and western rye. Brome and western rye (check). Brome and western rye. Brome and western rye. Brome and western rye. Brome and western rye. White sweet clover. White sweet clover. White sweet clover. Brome and western rye (check). White sweet clover. White sweet clover. White sweet clover. White sweet clover.	Seed with first-year wheat. Seed alone on fallow. Seed alone on spring ploughing. Seed alone on spring ploughing. Seed with first-year wheat. Seed with second-year wheat. Seed with first-year wheat. Seed with first-year wheat. Seed with first-year wheat. Seed done on fallow. Seed alone on fallow. Seed alone on spring ploughing. Seed with first-year wheat. Seed with first-year wheat. Seed with second-year wheat. Seed with second-year wheat.	32·9 25·7 16·2* 32·8 34·4 35·7 28·7 15·7*	16, 283	3,375 1,885* 4,405	

<sup>\*</sup> Two-year average.

While the above data are insufficient to justify any definite conclusions, it is worth observing that grasses yielded considerably greater crops when seeded alone on fallow than when seeded by any other method. With clover this difference is not apparent. In general, high yields of grain, either in the nurse crop or one preceding it, tend to reduce the subsequent hay crop. While both the probability of getting a catch and the yield of hay are greater when the grass is seeded alone, this method is open to the objections that a year's crop is lost and that weeds grow abundantly in the grass during the first season. For these reasons is probably better to seed grass or clover with a grain crop and take chances on a poor stand and a light yield. (Project F. 154.)

DATES OF PLANTING SUNFLOWERS

,		Three-year average						
Crop .	Date planted	Date emerged	Height at harvest	Stage cut	Green weight per acre	Dry weight per acre	Green weight per acre	Dry weight per acre
			inches		lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Russian Giant sunflowers	May 1 " 10	June 2	96 94 96 84 72	Full bloom.  80% bloom.  50% "	39, 185 26, 987 33, 532 24, 032 17, 255	7, 115 5, 480 6, 438 4, 880 3, 486	31,335 25,487 28,191 22,444 17,429	5,333 4,338 4,583 3,803 2,598

As in other seasons, the earlier-seeded sunflowers gave the highest yields. The difference in favour of early seeding this season was less marked than usual, due to uneven germination of the first and second seedings. Weather and soil conditions happened to be less favourable to immediate germination than they were at the later dates. (Project F. 156.)

#### CROP PRODUCTION ON OLD WEEDY LAND COINCIDENT WITH WEED ERADICATION

In the spring of 1924 this Station leased a quarter section of land which has been cropped since 1905. The land had become very weedy, being practically covered by a growth of stinkweed and Russian thistle. It became evident later that the soil to the depth of the furrow slice contained large numbers of viable weed seeds.

When acquired the land was in a three-year rotation of wheat, wheat, fallow. The fallow was cultivated and seeded. The second-crop land was burnt, a portion being ploughed, harrowed and seeded and the remainder disked and seeded. There was a very profuse growth of weeds on all the area seeded. In some places the weeds completely choked out the growing wheat, leaving areas as large as twenty feet square without a single head of wheat. The spaces between the drill-rows were in every case filled with weeds. When threshed, certain portions of the fallow crop yielded 20 bushels per acre and the average yield was 12.5 bushels. The second-crop wheat yielded an average of 10 bushels. On the Station, the average yields for 1924 were 35 bushels for fallow and 24 bushels for crops on fallow.

The portion of the land fallowed in 1924 was ploughed early in June, before any of the mat of stinkweed had gone to seed. It was cultivated as required during the season. The last cultivation was in October, two days before freeze-up

Beginning on May 4, 1925, the entire summer-fallow was cultivated. A seven-year rotation in four-acre fields was laid down on the west side of the quarter. The greater portion of the remainder is used for cultural treatments in two-acre fields, using a three-year rotation.

18280—3

#### CULTURAL TESTS—WHEAT GROWN ON OLD WEEDY LAND, STUBBLE TREATMENTS

Field	Treatment	Yield
		bush.
1 2 3 4 5	Spring-ploughed, harrowed, seeded and harrowed. Spring-disked, seeded and harrowed. Spring-burnt, (Stubble-burner) disked, seeded and harrowed. Spring-burnt, (harrow) disked, seeded and harrowed. Spring-burnt (harrow) disked, seultivated 15 days later, seeded and harrowed.	15·50 16·00 15·75 16·50 12·75

The fallow crops corresponding to the above fields were all cultivated on May 4 and seeded immediately with one bushel of wheat per acre. The average yield on 10 acres was 21.65 bushels per acre.

In all cases the stubble after harvesting was reasonably free from weeds, excepting the second-year crop on field 5. This field was quite weedy.

#### FALLOW TREATMENTS

Field	Treatment					
		bush.				
1	Fallow ploughed before June 15, 1924, cultivated as required; cultivated May 4, 1925, seeded (1 bush. wheat), harrowed	22 <b>2</b> 5				
2	Cultivated only during fallow year; cultivated May 4, 1925, seeded (1 bush. wheat), harrowed	22.50				
3	Ploughed, harrowed, oats seeded in triple rows 42" apart in 1924, cultivated, seeded (1 bush. wheat) 1925, harrowed	19.75				

Field 3 was fairly weedy. Fields 1 and 2 were practically clean. The second-year crop of wheat corresponding to the fallow crops reported in the table were spring ploughed, harrowed, seeded and harrowed. The average yield was 14.08 bushels.

#### DEFERRED SEEDING ON FALLOW AND STUBBLE

$\mathbf{Field}$	Crop	Treatment	Yield
			bush.
1	Oats	Fallow cultivated May 4; cultivated and 2½ bush. oats seeded on May 25.	36.0
2	Wheat	Fallow cultivated May 4; cultivated and 1 bush, wheat seeded May 25	20 . 2
3	Wheat	Fallow cultivated May 4: cultivated and 11 bush, wheat seeded May 25	22 . 25
4	Oats	Spring ploughed and harrowed May 8, cultivated and 21 bush. oats seeded	
5	Wheet	on May 27	24 · 50
	Wileat	on May 98	6.50
6	Wheat	on May 26	0.00
•	1	seeded on May 26	12.0

Both fallow and second-year oats were very weedy. Wheat seeded 1½ bushels per acre was fairly clean; wheat seeded 1 bushel per acre was dirty, particularly in the second year, which gave the most weedy crop and lowest yield on the quarter section. Compare these yields with yields in two preceding tables.

#### HARROWING GROWING WHEAT CROPS

Field	Treatment	Yield
	The control of the second of t	bush.
1 2 3 4 5 6	Fallow cultivated, seeded, harrowed before crop was up	$21 \cdot 75$ $26 \cdot 25$ $26 \cdot 00$ $14 \cdot 00$ $14 \cdot 50$ $11 \cdot 50$

In all cases the rate of seeding was  $1\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per acre. The fields which were harrowed when 4 inches high were remarkably free from weeds. It is evident that the harrowing did more damage to the weeds than to the growing crop. It must be remembered that the soil in this case was very firm and there was practically no wheat covered by the harrowing. Harrowing a crop growing in dry, loose soil would probably cause considerable damage to the crop.



Corn cultivated twice and hoed twice.

#### SEVEN-YEAR ROTATION (OLD WEEDY LAND)

Rotation year	Сгор	Yield per acre 1925	Value of cr		Cost of production		Profit or loss per acre 1925	
UNITED BY	of the Bara Deportured in speak in	The same of	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.
1	Corn	ton 1.55	5	43	11	10	-5	67
2	Wheat (grass seeded)	bush. 15.63	21	09	11	59	9	50
3 4	Hay (failure) oats and peas seeded	ton 1·20	12	00	11	68	0	32
5 6 7	WheatFallow	bush. 18·60	25	11	16	33	8	78
7	Fall rye. Average per acre	25.25		94 79		47 59		47 20

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Corn grown in this rotation was a very poor crop. The great growth of weeds made frequent cultivation necessary.

The hay crop was a failure. The ground was spring-ploughed and seeded

to a mixture of oats and peas.

The crop of fall rye, while it does not show much profit, was efficient in choking out weeds. Around the edges of the field where the rye was partially winter-killed there was a rank growth of stinkweed. Where the rye was not winter-killed there was practically no stinkweed. Early in the spring there

were abundant evidences of stinkweed over the entire field.

The foregoing statements cover only one year's work, and no definite conclusions can be drawn from them. As far as this year's work is concerned, however, it is apparent that early spring cultivation of fallow, followed by a heavy seeding of wheat, is more likely to give a good return, combined with suppression of weeds, than any other crop or treatment. It must be noted that the fallow in this case was ploughed before any weeds went to seed, and the subsequent cultivations were timed to prevent seeding.

The average yields of wheat on this land were 21.65 on fallow and 13.48 on stubble. On the Station, fallow-wheat averaged 23.4 bushels, and stubble-

wheat, 16.5 bushels.

#### THE COMBINE

The experience of three seasons indicates that the combined reaper-thresher can harvest and thresh wheat at a much lower cost per acre than can the binder and grain-separator. Reports on experiments with the Combine in the years 1922, 1923, and 1924 will be found in the Annual Reports of this Station for

those years

EXPERIMENTS, 1925.—It was realized that the period elapsing between binder-harvesting and combine-harvesting was the principal factor preventing the more general adoption of this means of harvesting; therefore, an attempt was made to shorten this period. An area of one hundred acres of Marquis wheat was secured for the purpose. The reaper-thresher was started six days later than the date on which the binder would be used. Similar areas were cut at intervals until the crop was undoubtedly fit to be cut by the reaper-thresher without any subsequent handling of the grain. These various cuttings were handled in the following ways:—

- (1) Placed in heaps on the ground; turned over whenever necessary.
- (2) Placed in ventilated bins.
- (3) Passed through a blower.

Before commencing this work, the International Harvester Corporation brought a grain-dehydrating plant to Swift Current, which was set up on the Station and used in this work. This dehydrator was a large, expensive affair and was undoubtedly as efficient an apparatus for drying grain without using

artificial heat as any that the average farmer would be likely to use.

The first cutting was made on August 27. It was quite evident that the moisture content was high; therefore, only 80 bushels were harvested. Half of this quantity was dumped in a conical heap on the ground, and the remaining half in the dehydrator. The grain had a moisture content of 24.9 per cent. After being passed through the dehydrator fifteen times the moisture was reduced to 23.5 per cent. The fifteen operations took place between August 28 and September 8.

The grain placed in a heap on the ground, turned over repeatedly, covered with canvas when the weather was wet, showed so little reduction in moisture

that it finally moulded and became unfit for sale.

The second cutting was deferred to September 3. Three hundred bushels were put in the dehydrator and 300 in the ventilated bin. After eight dehy-

drations the moisture was reduced from 20.5 per cent to 19.5 per cent. The ventilated bin made a slightly poorer showing. Within four days the moisture-content of the grain standing in the field fell from 20.5 per cent to a point where the average was below 15 per cent. This grain would have kept in good condition in any case. All the grain above 15 per cent of moisture contained 3 per cent or more of green kernels. When the moisture-content was below 21 per cent these green kernels lost their excess moisture to the riper kernels, becoming shrivelled in appearance, but retaining the green colour. Even in grain which was low enough in moisture for the dehydrator to reduce to, or below, the critical 14.5 per cent, the presence of the 3 per cent of dry green kernels caused the elevators to reduce the grade from No. 1 to No. 3. It is evident that by using special bins or other drying apparatus the reaper-thresher can only be used four or five days earlier than would otherwise be possible, and there is a great probability of losing one or two grades on the wheat, and a possibility of having it graded as feed.

These results strongly indicate that the idea of cutting wheat, before it is ripe enough to be safely stored, and drying it in a bin or drier is not feasible and

should not be attempted by users of the Combine.

Co-incident with the foregoing experiment an attempt was made to determine the comparative loss of wheat by reaper-thresher and binder. A twelve-acre field was divided into six equal areas. The alternate areas were cut by the binder, stooked and threshed. The remaining three were cut by the reaper-thresher. Before harvesting with the binder there were some signs of sawfly damage in the field. Unfavourable weather delayed the reaper-thresher to such an extent that when it was used the crop was badly damaged. There were differences in favour of the binder ranging from two to seven bushels per acre. The same fields were raked and threshed by the separator after the reaper-thresher had been used. The highest amount of grain recovered was  $2\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per acre. Straw and all tailings going over the end-board of the reaper-thresher were collected. These yielded one-half bushel per acre. These figures do not disclose the cause of loss on the reaper-thresher fields. It must have resulted from the raking and handling of the wheat which was cut by the sawfly. In many cases the heads were broken off with very little straw attached. These heads cannot be picked up by a rake. On another field where the sawfly damage was very slight the reaper-thresher harvested 14.8 bushels, and the binder 14.16 bushels, per acre.

The presence of sawfly in wheat makes the operation of the reaper-thresher difficult and wasteful. In the case already mentioned, in order to pick up as much as possible of the fallen grain the sickle was equipped with special lifting guards and the table lowered almost to the ground. This caused the machine to pick up all the green Russian thistle and other weeds growing in the crop. Some of the green seeds and portions of the bruised stems of the weeds were heavy enough to pass through the screens with the threshed grain. In the case of grain which had a moisture-content near the danger point the presence of these portions of weeds, even in small quantities, would be enough to cause the grain

co spoil.

The only reaper-thresher in the immediate vicinity of Swift Current, other than the one on the Station, was not operated this year because sawfly damage

necessitated cutting the crop while it was still fairly green.

Questionnaires were sent to seventeen operators of reaper-threshers in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Eleven were returned. The estimated saving over binding, stocking and threshing in nine cases averaged 15.6 cents per bushel. In two cases the machine cut and threshed for the cost of cutting and stocking. These figures take no account of depreciation on the machine or interest on the investment. In only one case was there enough sawfly damage to make any difficulty. It was partly overcome by using lifting guards.

In only one case was reaper-thresher wheat graded lower than binder-cut wheat. One operator reported less dockage on reaper-thresher wheat. Eight machines were used after the snowfalls beginning September 26. In two cases better grades were obtained for this wheat than for wheat threshed from the stook. Two reported trouble with green pigweed and one with Russian thistle. Two operators cut weedy flax after the storms. The weeds were dry and caused no trouble. All operators who used the Combine for harvesting flax reported it as being very satisfactory and economical for the purpose.

The districts in which reaper-threshers have been successfully used constitute a northern continuation of the short-grass region of the Western States. A line drawn from the International Boundary near Estevan through Moose Jaw, thence north to Saskatoon and westward to Calgary, would enclose all the reaper-threshers which have been used in Canada. This area may be extended in future years, but climatic and geographic conditions would seem to indicate that their use will be confined to this area.

SUMMARY.—1. The Combine can be used to harvest wheat in districts where crops ripen early and fields are reasonably level. The use of the Combine on this Station has been confined to wheat crops. Farmers report that it has been successfully and economically used to harvest flax. One operator used the machine on oats.

- 2. The wheat crop must be allowed to ripen to such a degree that the average moisture content is below 15 per cent before cutting with the Combine is started. This degree of ripeness is usually obtained in ten to fifteen days after cutting with the binder is started.
- 3. No serious loss from shelling has occurred during this ten to fifteen day ripening-period.
- 4. The only important loss in any year resulted from the failure of the Combine to pick up wheat which had been cut by sawfly and was blown down while the crop was ripening. Cutting with the binder would partly obviate this loss.
- 5. Crops which have been injured by sawfly or which contain bulky weeds such as Russian thistle or pigweed are not handled satisfactorily with the Combine.
- 6. Clean crops, either short or tall, and heavy, tangled crops have been handled more satisfactorily with the Combine than with the binder.
- 7. Dependent upon yields per acre and other factors which may affect the speed of operation, the saving effected by the Combine over the binder and separator is 10 to 15 cents per bushel. These figures include interest, depreciation and repairs as well as operating-costs on both types of equipment.

#### HORTICULTURE

Despite the rather dry season, the garden crops generally were more satisfactory than usual. This fact is probably to be attributed to the excellent condition of the garden soil. The land was well summer-fallowed in 1924; consequently, it was free from weeds and was well supplied with moisture in the early spring. The tomato varieties were the most conspicuously successful of all the crops grown in the garden. All varieties produced some ripe tomatoes and one variety ripened all its fruit.

and by others

#### VEGETABLES

#### BEANS-VARIETY TEST

Variety	Source of seed	Date ready for use	Yield string beans from 30-foot row	
			lbs.	oz.
Dwarf French, Bountiful	Vaughan Burpee. Graham Rennie Sutton. C.E.F. C.E.F. C.E.F. C.E.F. C.E.F. C.E.F. C.E.F.	" 18 " 21 " 24 Aug. 20 July 18 29 Aug. 1 4 July 18 18 Aug. 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	10 9 9 9 9 9 9	11 6 6 13 5 5 5 5 11 6 13 6

Fourteen varieties of beans were planted on May 18, spaced 4 inches apart in the row, rows 30 inches apart. Nearly all showed through the ground 18 days after planting, and germination was even throughout. While the yields were fair, there were considerable coarse, fibrous pods, which may be partially attributed to the dry summer months. (Project H. 61.)

BEANS-DIFFERENT DISTANCES OF PLANTING

Variety	Distance sown apart in rows	Date ready for use	Yield beans 30-foot	s per
	inches		lbs.	OZ.
Round Pod Kidney Wax Round Pod Kidney Wax Round Pod Kidney Wax. Round Pod Kidney Wax. Stringless Green Pod. Stringless Green Pod. Stringless Green Pod.	6 2 4	July 25 " 25 " 25 " 28 " 28	10 11	12 12 4 0 2 7

The close spacing of plants resulted in higher yields, but the size of the pods was uniformly larger on the plants spaced 4 inches and 6 inches apart, and these also retained their crispness longer, which might be attributed to the greater share of available moisture. (Project H. 58.)

#### BEETS-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Three varieties, or strains, namely, Detroit Turnip (Graham), Detroit Dark Red, 0.6650 (C.E.F.) and Detroit Dark Red Turnip (McDonald), were sown on April 21 and showed through the ground 20 to 25 days after. All were ready for use on July 16. For quality, Detroit Dark Red, 0.6650 was considerably superior, as indicated by its dark, even colour and fine texture. (Project H. 68.)

#### BEETS-DIFFERENT DATES OF SEEDING

Variety	Date Sown	% Germina- tion	Date ready for use	Remarks
Detroit turnip	April 21	20	July 15	Attacked in early stages of growth by cutworms.
"	May 1	55 90	" 15 " 20	" " "
"	" 20 " 30	90 95 90	" 24	Suitable for winter storage. Suffered considerably in early stages
· "	June 11	90		from drouth. " "

BORECOLE OR KALE-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

(Project H.65)

Variety	Source of Seed	Ready for use	Height	Yield of three 30-foot rows
Kale—Tall Scotch curled	McDonald	Aug. 30	inch 30	lbs 147
Borecole, Dwarf Green curled	Rennie	Aug. 20	18	141

(Project H.69)

#### BRUSSELS SPROUTS-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Two varieties, Imperial Dwarf and Paris Market, were sown in flats on March 24, pricked out April 14, and planted in the garden May 14. Both varieties grew an abundance of stem and leaves. Small sprouts appeared on the Imperial Dwarf variety about July 20, but suffered considerably from insect damage, though pyrethrum powder was used freely. The Paris Market variety was too late in forming sprouts. (Project H. 70,)

#### CAULIFLOWER-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Two varieties were under test, Henderson Snowball and Extra Early Dwarf Erfurt. The latter produced the first few heads on August 2. Henderson Snowball followed on August 25. The majority of the heads, however, were small and few of the fair-sized ones were of the desired close, compact type. (Project H. 88.)

CABBAGE-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Variety	Source of Seed	Date ready for use	Average Yield of Cabbage per 30-foot row
Glory of Enkhuizen. Succession Early Ballhead Novelty Kildonan Danish Ballhead Intermed. Golden Acre. Danish Ballhead—Solid Emperor strain. Copenhagen Market Novelty Early Summer. Summer Ballhead Danish Roundhead Danish Ballhead. Northern Favourite. Danish Ballhead. Northern Favourite. Danish Ballhead. Short stem. Copenhagen Market True Danish Ballhead. Early Jersey Wakefield Ex. Am. Danish Ballhead, O. 3422 Brandon Market. Early Paris Market Early Winningstadt.	Ewing Steele, Briggs. Steele, Briggs. Harris. Harris. Harris. Harris. Dupuy & Ferguson. Rennie. Mc Kenzie. Harris. Graham Burpee. Mc Kenzie. Mc Kenzie. Herris. Steele, Briggs.	" 20 " 18 Aug. 5 Sept. 28 July 15 Sept. 20 July 20 Sept. 20 July 20 Sept. 20 July 20 July 20 Sept. 20 July 15 Sept. 20	35

Cabbage varieties were sown in flat boxes March 23, pricked out from the 9th to the 13th of April, and transplanted to the garden from the 6th to the 7th of May.

All varieties, with the exception of Early Winnigstadt, which was killed by frost on the 9th of May, made strong, even growth from the date of planting; Early Jersey Wakefield, Golden Acre, Early Summer and Copenhagen Market are among the best early varieties. Glory of Enkhuizen, Succession, and Kildonan are among the best late varieties. (Project H. 77.)

CABBAGE-DIFFERENT DATES OF SOWING FOR STORAGE PURPOSES

Variety	Source of seed	Date of sowing	Date of germinaction	Per cent germin- ation	Ready for use	Num- ber of heads har- vested per 30-foot row	Weight of heads	Remarks
Copenhagen Market.	James	April 22	May 12	% 85	Aug. 25	8	lbs. 62	Very large; all heads split.
	"	May 1	" 12	85	" 25	12	89	Very large; some split.
. "	"	" 11		90	" 30	15	78	All quite large.
"	"	" 20	<b>"</b> 30	90	Sept. 9	18	90	- " -
<b>"</b>	"	June 5	June 15	90	" 10	14	51	Good size for storing.
Extra Amager Danish.	C.E.F	April 22	May 12	30	" 13	10	50	Some quite large.
Ballhead, O.3422	"	May 1	" 12	80	" 13	14	56	Mostly small.
" 3422	"	(( 11	" 28	85	1	14	49	All small.
" 3422			June 4	85		l īī l	26	Very small.
" 3422		June 5		90				Heads not formed.

All seed sown on or before May 20 germinated very unevenly. Not until after the showers of May 22 did nearly all the seed grow. This resulted in very patchy rows, and plants had to be transplanted to fill in the gaps. (Project H. 72.)

CARROTS-DIFFERENT DATES OF SEEDING

Date sown	Date Germ atio	in-	Read for Us		Aver Yield 30-foot	l per
					lbs.	oz.
April 21 May 1 May 11 May 10 May 20 June 10	May " June	18 19 25 11 18	July " Aug.	15 15 20 25 15	43 31 18 17 18	0 4 12 8 12

The first sowing required twenty-seven days before it showed above ground. This was due to the cool spring weather. Seed sown on the 20th May required twenty-two days before it came through the ground. The surface soil was dry at the time of sowing.

The first two sowings produced good, suitable-sized roots for summer use; carrots suitable for winter storage were obtained from seed sown on the 11th and 20th of May. Carrots sown on the 10th of June were all too small. (Project H. 79.)

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#### CELERY-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Variety	Source of Seed	Weight of 60 plants	Remarks
Paris Golden Yellow New Giant.	Steele, Briggs	lbs. 85	Well blanched—medium to large stalks.
Golden Self Blanching O. 3410	C.E.F	68	Well blanched.
Easy Blanching Garrahan	Graham	65	Stalks, tall thick.
Evans Triumph	Dupuy & Ferguson	64	Stalks medium to thin—fairly well blanched.
White Plume	Graham	63	Hearts and inner leaves blanched
Gold Plume Novelty	Morse	60	only.   Fairly well blanched.
Easy Blanching	Graham	58	Tall, thin stalks—fairly well blanch
			ed.
Fordhook New Emperor	Vaughan	57	Stalks thick—blanching nearly com-
Paris Golden Yellow	Dupuy & Ferguson	56	Stalks medium—blanching nearly
			complete.
New Golden Novelty	Ferry	55	Stalks thick and heavy—fairly wel
			blanched.
Golden Self Blanching	Stokes	50	Stalks medium—well blanched—quality very good.

The celery varieties were sown in flat boxes on March 24, pricked out about the middle of May, and planted on June 11 in double rows 6 inches apart and plants spaced 6 inches apart in the row, in trenches 15 feet long, one foot wide and one foot deep, having a 6-inch layer of manure in the bottom. The earth thrown out when digging the trenches was thrown back gradually when the plants were ready for blanching. (Project H. 94.)

CELERY—BLANCHING EXPERIMENT

Method of planting	Method of blanching	Yield of celery per 30 plants	Remarks
		lbs.	
	Earth covering	14 <del>1</del> 29	Mostly small—Unblanched.  Plants small—Unblanched, not edible.
Grown on level in double rows, rows 6" apart, plants spaced 6" apart in row	Ready roofing covering.	19}	Plants small—Unblanched, not edible.
Grown in trench 6" deep, plants 6" apart	Earth covering	42 25	Fairly large—Blanched, edible. Green—Stumpy—Not edible.

The celery plants were dug on October 14. Up to this time there had been a few light frosts. Those grown in the trenches were not damaged; those grown on level ground were caught. Plants grown on level land did not make sufficient growth for the blanching test to be made properly. (Project H. 90.)

#### CORN-SUCKERING EXPERIMENT

Variety	Suckers left on or removed	Date ready for use	Weight of corn on the cob per 20 hills
			lbs.
Golden Bantam. Golden Bantam. Early Malcolm. Early Malcolm.	left on	" 28 " 23	93 <del>1</del> 66 66 43 <u>1</u>

In this experiment, not only did the removal of suckers depreciate the yield of cobs, but there was exhibited a tendency to reduce the size of the cob. (Project H. 101).

#### LETTUCE-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Variety	Source of seed	Туре	Average yield per thirty-foot row
			lbs.
Early Curled Simpson Grand Rapids Black Seeded Simpson Iceberg Black Seeded Simpson Extra Curled Simpson Extra Curled Simpson New York Denver Market All Seasons	Mc Kenzie. Vaughan Ewing. Ewing. Harris. Mc Kenzie Vaughan	Loose	39 383 364 357 35

The loose-leaf varieties produce a large amount of leaf freely, but are apt to become bitter in taste in a short time in a dry season. Among the cabbage-head varieties, Iceberg and New York are to be recommended. (Project H. 116).

#### MUSKMELON-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Eight hills each of Tip Top and Page Early varieties were planted on May 19. Page Early produced the first few ripe melons on September 15. Tip Top followed ten days after. In yield, however, Tip Top was much superior, producing 23 pounds as compared with the yield of 11 pounds of Page Early. Both varieties were covered at night during the latter part of September to protect them from frost. (Project H. 122).

#### ONIONS-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Onions have not been successfully grown. Seed of twenty-four varieties was sown on April 28 and all emerged from the 15th to the 18th of May. At that time the first few inches of soil were dry and occasional hot winds came from the southwest which gave the small seedling a serious setback. The test in future will be made by early planting of onion seed in flat boxes and transplanting as early as possible in the spring. (Project H. 138).

#### ONION SETS-VARIETY EXPERIMENTS

Red onion sets and yellow onion sets were planted out April 28 and showed up strongly above ground one week later. These stood the dry summer much better than the varieties grown from seed, although the yields were only fair. The yield per 30-foot row of yellow onions was 10½ pounds, and 8½ pounds for the red variety, the first onion being a little larger than the second. (Project H. 378).

PARSNIPS—DIFFERENT DATES OF SEEDING

Date sown	Date germinated	Date ready for use	Average yield per thirty-foot row
			lbs.
April 21 May 1 May 10 May 20 May 30 June 14	" 20	Aug. 30 " 30 Sept.15 " 15 " 30	15 16 17½ 15 13½ 0

As in previous years, early seeding of parsnips gave the maximum results in points of yield, size and quality of roots. (Project H. 142).

PEAS—DIFFERENT DISTANCES OF PLANTING

Variety	Distance between plants in row	Date ready for use	Size of pod	Number of peas per pod	Length of stem	Aver yield thirty ro	per -foot
1	inches		inches		inches	lbs.	οz.
Thomas Laxton. Thomas Laxton. Thomas Laxton. Stratagem. Stratagem. Stratagem. English Wonder. English Wonder. English Wonder.	3 1 3 2 1 3 2 1	July 14	3 21	7 5 7 7 6 6	30 30 30 20 20 20 16 15	7 7 8 8 10 10 10 10	6 11 15 1 10 6 8 7 12

From the test it would appear that early peas may be sown closer together than late peas. In the case of the English Wonder, the earliest of the varieties in the test, there appears no appreciable difference in yields, but the size and number of peas per pod were larger when plants were grown 3 inches apart. Stratagem, the latest of the varieties, produced the highest yield, with large, well-filled pods, when grown 2 inches apart. Thomas Laxton is a medium early variety. (Project H. 148).

Average yield for three years 1925 crop average yield Variety test  $\mathbf{Per}$ seventy-foot row Per acre Per acre lbs. bush. bush. American Wonder
Epicure
Ashleaf Kidney
Burnaby Mammoth
Houghton Rose
Wee McGregor
Carter Favourite
Duchess of Norfolk
Extra Early Eureka
Light Cohler 881 78 83 67 82 70 78 60 58 75 47 223 237 192 236 202 223 187 202 173 166 215 351 348 332 328 328 320 Irish Cobler.
Country Gentleman.
King Edward
Early Ohio
Duke of York. 294 292 259 240

The yield for potatoes was not so good as for the two previous years. The American Wonder variety and Epicure have been the highest yielders for the past three years. The first, however, is a large, rough potato; the latter is a fairly large and smoother variety. The Irish Cobbler, while not so good in yield, possesses excellent cooking qualities. The Duke of York, a very smooth, medium to small variety, with a thin skin of russet colour, is a very early variety and is very suitable for early summer use. (Project H. 186).

POTATOES-DIFFERENT DATES OF PLANTING

Variety ·	Date planted	Date emerged	Average yield per thirty-foot row	Remarks
			lbs.	
Irish Cobbler	April 28 May 11	May 20 " 24 June 15	44 41½ 32	All good size. All good size. Many small.
Irish Cobbler Irish Cobbler Early Ohio	. April 28	. May 28	24½	Very poor. All good size. Some small.
Early Ohio. Early Ohio. Early Ohio.	. " 23	June 15		Many small. Very poor.

The test indicates that, in order to secure potatoes of a good size, the seed should be planted early. (Project H. 162).

#### RADISH-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Of the eight varieties that were tested, the following are to be recommended: Scarlet Turnip, White Tip, a medium-sized, round variety of mild flavour; French Breakfast, red, fairly large and oval in shape; Icicle, white, long, and very mild in flavour. (Project H. 192).

#### SQUASH AND PUMPKIN-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Golden Hubbard, Long White Bush, Kitchenette, Table Queen, and Perfect Gem squash were grown in this test. Six seeds were planted in a hill and later thinned to three plants per hill. The hills were prepared by excavating a hole one foot deep and putting a 6-inch layer of well-rotted manure in the bottom and filling in to the ground level with good soil and leaving the surface saucer-shaped. The Kitchenette and Long White Bush grew fast and made large foliage. The remainder were slow germinating and by July 20 they had made very little progress. Three hills of Kitchenette yielded 92 pounds of squash. Three hills of Long White Bush yielded 50 pounds, and one hill of Golden Hubbard yielded 55 pounds.

Four hills of three plants each of Sugar Pumpkin produced 297 pounds of fruit, the first of which was ripe September 5. (Project H. 201).

#### SWISS CHARD-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Fordhook Giant was the only variety grown. This was sown April 21 and was ready to use on July 20. The plants grew to a height of 20 inches. The average yield from a 30-foot row consisting of twenty-four plants was 52 pounds.

#### RHUBARB-DEVELOPMENT FROM SEED

Ruby No. 45 was used for this test. The seed planted this year did not germinate well, due to dry weather, and when seedlings were transplanted in the fall they killed out. Seed that was sown and transplanted in 1924 made good progress this year but had not become sufficiently established to enable it to produce many stalks fit for use. (Project H. 356).

#### TURNIPS-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Extra Early Purple Milan, Golden Ball, Red Top Strapleaf and Early Purple Top Milan were sown on April 22. The first two were ready for use on May 25 and the last two about a week later. All yielded well. (Project H. 214).

TOMATOES—VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Variety	Source of seed	Date of ripening of first few	Yields per 16 plants in thirty-foot row		
Variety	Source of seed	ripe fruit	Green tomatoes	Ripe tomatoes	
		_	lbs.	lbs.	
Abbotsford Argo		July 28		421	
XL Extra Early	Rennie	Aug. 24	42	28 <del>1</del>	
Danish Export		July 27	32	$24\frac{7}{4}$	
Alacrity O-6-6-1			44	22	
Bolgiana Novelty			$\overline{42}$	19	
	Bruce		49	181	
Pink No. 1			$\tilde{32}$	18	
Alacrity x Hipper			38	15 <del>1</del>	
Alacrity x Earlibell	CEE O SASS		42	15	
Alacrity O-10-5-1	CEE O 5488	" 14	41	141	
Wayahead Novelty	Denies	" 24	47	14	
Manyfold Novelty			42	121	
			51	114	
Chalks Early Jewel	Burbank		52		
Sparks Earliana	Burpee	17		111	
First and Best Novelty	Bruce	14	49	10₹	
Monumental Novelty	Bolgiana	17	44	10	
N. Dakota Earliana		14	44	9	
Bonny Best	Stokes	15	39	83	
Burbank Novelty		Z4	47	7-}	
Bonny Best-Standard Strain			38	6 <del>1</del>	
Favourite Novelty	Livingstone	" 28	36	5 <del>}</del>	
Greater Baltimore	Stokes	<b>" 24</b>	51	44	
Self Pruning	Burpee	<b>"</b> 24	34	41	
Rosy Morn		" 17	38	4 1	
John Bear		Sept.10	33	4	
Beauty Novelty		Aug .24	43	3	
Early Detroit		Sept.20	29	21	
San Jose Canner	Morse		38	$\bar{2}^{\bullet}$	
Earliest Market		" 10	36		

Due to the long frost-free period this season, the ripening period of tomatoes lasted from the 14th August to the 24th September, when the entire crop was picked before any serious frost occurred. All plants were pruned to one stem and tied with raffia to stakes, spaced 42 inches by 30 inches. Occasional hot south winds caused some scalding. Blossom-end rot appeared at the end of the season. (Project H. 211.)

Tomatoes-Methods of Training

Y7 1 4	Method used	Date of ripening first few fruits		Average yield of tomatoes per thirty-foot row of 16 plant			
Variety	wetnod used			Green and ripe	Green	Ripe	
			_	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	
Bonny Best	Single stem not headed back Single stem stopped at first fruit truss Single stem stopped at second fruit	" 16.	• • •	50 81	35 1 <del>2</del>	15 6}	
Bonny Best	truss	" 13 " 13		28½ 514	18 31	10½ 20½	
Alacrity, O. 661	Single stem not headed back Single stem stopped at first fruit truss	" 7		511 631 121	31 38 4	251 81	
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Single stem stopped at second fruit truss	" 16.	٠	231	6	17}	
Macricy, O. 001	truss	" 14		471	25	221	

Contrary to what is usually considered good practice, pruning of tomato plants has resulted in slightly later ripening of fruit and a corresponding material decrease in yield of both green and ripe tomatoes, according to the severity of the pruning. (Project H. 207.)

#### TREES AND SHRUBS FOR SHELTER AND ORNAMENTAL PURPOSES

An additional number of trees and shrubs was planted out in the shelter-belts and ornamental places; they were: 100 elm, 3 to 4 feet high; 100 ash, 2 to 3 feet high; 200 laurel leaf willows, 2 to 3 feet high; 100 Scotch pine; 200 white spruce; and a considerable number of lilac, flowering currant, Rosa rugosa, and Tartarian honeysuckle.

Russian poplar planted in the spring of 1923 made excellent growth this year. The average height in the spring was about 5 feet; by fall they averaged 8 feet in height.

Elms, 3 feet high when planted out in the spring of 1924, came through the winter well, leafed out early in the spring and are now well established to make good growth.

Green ash, were 2 to 3 feet high when planted out in the shelter-belts, 1924. Many of these did not winter well and were very late in leafing out.

Manitoba maple. Two-year-old plants planted in shelter-belts 1924 killed back considerably and tend to assume a scrubby appearance.

Scotch pine. Plants 10 inches high were planted in shelter-belts and at various points for ornamental purposes. It was observed that a few of these dropped their needles in the spring, due to a fungous infection; nearly all, however, made good growth.

White spruce. Plants 8 to 10 inches high were planted in the shelter-belts and in ornamental groves in 1923. A few died in the winter and were replaced in 1924. Only a very few failed to come through the winter of 1924 and 1925.

Flowering shrubs showed considerable bloom during late spring and early summer months. The following appear in the order in which they bloomed:—

Name		Began to bloom		om er
Flowering Currant Caragana frutescens. Caragana arborescens. Caragana pygmaea. Common lilac. Spirea, Van houteii. Tartarian honeysuckle. Spirea aruncus. Siberian dogwood. Potentilla fruticota. Albert Regal honeysuckle. Rosa rugosa.	" " " " " " " " " " " "	18 20 21 24 25 27 28 28 30 3 5	June " " " " " " Sept.	28 15 12 10 22 12 26 25 20 28 23 10

#### PERENNIALS-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

A large number of perennials was sown in flat boxes early in the spring and some in outdoor beds in late spring. Those which made sufficient growth were planted out about the first of June. The more slow growing varieties were planted out in September. These are being used to replace many of the annual flower-beds.

#### ANNUALS-VARIETY EXPERIMENT

Due to the dry season, the annuals did not germinate readily, and consequently did not make so good a showing as they did the previous year. The following made the best showing this year:—

Hardy Annuals (53 varieties or strains in test): alyssum, Virginian stock, candytuft, calendula, mignonette, gypsophila, coreopsis, helichrysum, asperula, shirley poppies, and various sunflowers.

Half Hardy Annuals (21 varieties or strains). These were all started in flat boxes indoors March 27 and planted out about the 16th of June: Ten-weeks stock, Statice sinuata, French marigold, African marigold, and Kochia trichophila, were the best varieties. Cosmos did not bloom well till late in the season. (Project H. 261.)

#### SWEET PEAS-VARIETY TEST

As was the case with all other annuals, sweet peas did not bloom nearly so profusely as they did last season. Many began to bloom on the 12th of July and practically ceased by August 18, when considerable rain fell, and all began to bloom again and continued till September 20.

The following are among the best this season:—

Hawlmark Pink, King Mauve, King White Improved, Mrs. C. P. Tomlin, Mrs. Collier, Royal Purple, Royal Scot, Constance Hinton, Mrs. Tom Jones, and Picture.

#### TULIPS—VARIETY EXPERIMENT AS ANNUALS

Thirty-nine varieties were planted 6 inches deep, bulbs 8 inches apart, in good soil in outdoor beds about October 15. All were protected over winter with a 6-inch covering of short, rotted manure. Nearly all came through the winter and made good growth in the spring.

The following are among those making the best showing:—

Early Single Tulips.—Vermilion Brilliant (vermilion), Artus (scarlet), Duchesse de Parma (flame), La Reine (white), Proserpine (pink).

Early Double Tulips.—Murillo (white), Couronne D'or (golden yellow).

Darwin Tulips.—La Candeur (white), Rev Ewbank (violet), Dream (lilac).

May Flowering Tulips.—Picotee (white), Mrs. Moon (gold yellow). (Project H. 290.)

#### **CEREALS**

Cereal investigation methods in 1925 have followed very closely those described in the 1924 Report. Provision has been made for testing barley and out varieties on both fallow and second-crop land. Rod-row and head-row work have been increased, though, unfortunately, sawfly damage in the rod rows was so great that the value of the work was very much diminished. Fifty acres of Garnet wheat were grown in some of the field rotations. Yields varied from 17 to 26 bushels per acre, conforming fairly closely to yields of Marquis under the same conditions.

COMMON SPRING WHEAT—TEST OF VARIETIES OR STRAINS 1/50-acre Plots—Triplicated. Sown on Fallow May 1

Swift Current Number	Variety	Date ripe	Number of days maturing	Height at Harvest	Sawfly damage	Yield grain per acre
				(inch)	%	bush.
37 101 39 31 33 28 40 103 38 10 11	Kitchener Early Red Fife Supreme Garnet Producer O. 197 Ruby Golden Marquis, O. 15 Early Triumph Kota Reward O. 928 Brownie O. 191	" 10 " 6 " 3 " 9	104 104 102 93 98 95 101 99 98 95 95	28 32 30 30 28 34 30 32 30 31 31	15 15 15 5 15 15 15 15 15 15	27.98 27.21 26.79 26.53 26.44 23.59 23.39 23.33 23.33 22.01

In comparing yields per acre of the different varieties of wheat it should be remembered that in different years the varieties stand in different orders of value. This fact is probably due to several factors. The first of these is that the varying weather conditions from season to season do not affect all varieties alike; that is, a certain set of weather conditions may have a greater effect, either favourable or adverse, on one variety or another. Then there is a degree of error in all experiments which can be overcome only by repeated trials over a period of years. For these reasons, final appraisal of the merits of the different varieties must await the completion of several years' tests. (Project Ce. 1.)

Spring Wheat—Varieties and Strains Comparative Yields for a Number of Years

			Com-				
Variety	1922	1923	1924	1925	Average for years grown	Average for Marquis for same years	parative Yields in per cent of Marquis for same years
	bush.	bush.	bush.	bush.	bush.	bush.	%
Kitchener Kubanka O. 37 Supreme Marquis Ruby Early Red Fife Early Triumph Kota	27,331	22 · 60 26 · 00 26 · 00 27 · 50 25 · 70 22 · 30 21 · 30 25 · 40	19·92 19·78 18·25 18·55 19·52 18·57 20·41 15·79	27 · 98 24 · 51 26 · 79 23 · 33 23 · 59 27 · 21 23 · 33 22 · 56	27 · 12 26 · 90 25 · 76 25 · 34 25 · 03 24 · 68 23 · 09 21 · 25	25·34 25·34 25·34 25·34 25·34 25·34 25·34	106·15 101·65 100·00 98·77 97·39

In the preceding table an effort is made to present a statement of the relative yielding powers of some of the more common varieties of spring wheat, based on trials covering four years. Two limitations of the tabular data must be kept in mind when making comparisons between varieties: the first is that the trials should be extended over a longer period before definite conclusions are drawn. The second limitation is that yield alone is not always a true indication of the value of a variety. In this table, Kubanka, though not a bread wheat, is included with the others for purposes of comparison. While Kubanka has yielded six per cent more than Marquis, it is probable that the average value per acre of the Kubanka crop would be less than that of Marquis. Kitchener wheat has outyielded Marquis by seven per cent, but Kitchener is open to the objection that it frequently grades lower than Marquis, and requires an extra six days to mature. Supreme and Marquis are almost equal in yield. The quality of Marquis is slightly better, and it shows less of a tendency to shatter.

It would seem advisable for farmers in southwestern Saskatchewan who are now growing Marquis to continue to grow that variety until something distinctly better is available.

DURUM WHEAT—Test of Varieties or Strains 1/50-acre plots, triplicated. Sown May 1 on Fallow, 70 lb. per acre

Swift Current Number		Date ripe	Number of days maturing	Average length of straw including head	Yield grain per acre
				inch	bush.
34	Acme	Aug. 15	107	32	26.09
24	Kubanka O. 37	Aug. 15	107	36	24.51

(Project Ce. 3)

#### Oats—Test of Varieties of Strains Grown on Fallow 1/100-acre plots—triplicated. Sown May 9

Swift Current Number	Variety	Date ripe	Number of days maturing	Length of straw	Strength of straw on scale of ten points	Stand	Yield grain per acre
7				inch			bush.
73 62 73 19 3 61 18 15 63 2 24 14 23	Banner Gold Rain Banner Leader Gerlach O.A.C. No. 72 Victory Abundance Longfellow Daubeney Cole Alaska Laurel Liberty	" 12 " 12 " 12 " 12 " 14 " 14 " 11 July 31 Aug. 9 " 9	99 97 97 97 95 95 99 96 85 94 95	36 37 36 34 36 33 35 34 28 28 33 31	9·0 9·3 8·8 8·8 9·1 9·1 9·1 9·1 8·8 8·8	Thick  Normal Thick Normal Patchy Patchy	65 - 63 - 63 - 63 - 63 - 65 - 65 - 65 -

(Project Ce 5)

## OATS—TEST OF VARIETIES OR STRAINS GROWN ON SPRING-PLOUGHED OAT-STUBBLE 1/100-acre plots—triplicated. Sown May 9

Swift Current Number	Variety	Date ripe	Number of days maturing	Length of straw	Strength of straw on scale of ten points	Stand	Yield grain per acre
				inch			bush.
73 61 19 2 63 18 62 13 3	Banner. Victory. Leader. Cole. Daubeney. Abundance. Gold Rain. O.A.C. No. 72. Gerlach. Longfellow.	" 10 " 12 " 8 " 10 " 14 " 12 " 12 " 12	95 97 93 95 99 97 99	29 28 30 26 27 29 32 32 30 30	8.8 8.8 6.6 7.1 8.8 9.0 8.8 8.6 8.1	Normal	52 · 2 51 · 4 47 · 4 46 · 3 41 · 5 39 · 2 38 · 7 36 · 3
14 24 23	Laurel Alaska Liberty	" 10	95	26 28 28	8·0 7·0 8·0	Normal Thin	31 · 3 25 · 1 14 · 0

(Project Ce 5)

	Com-					
1922	1923	1924	1925	Average for years grown	Average for Banner for same years	parative yields in per cent of Banner for same years
	bush. 68.5 55.0	bush. 51.8 59.5	bush. 61·7 56·5	bush. 60·6 57·0	bush. 53·1 53·1	% 114·1 107·3
74·8 71·6	60·3 58·3	33·8 43·3	65·2 58·6	58·5 57·9	58·5 58·5	102·3 100·0 98·9 95·0
51.6	55.7	47·0 45·0	44.4	51·4 44·7	56·3 49·5	91·4 90·3 89·6
68.0	50.4	42·2 32·2	48·0 55·1 36·7	52 · 1 43 · 6 36 · 7	58·5 49·5 61·7	89·0 88·0 59·4 55·0
	bush.  70.6 74.8 71.6 63.5 51.6	1922 1923  bush. 68.5  70.6 53.5 74.8 60.3 71.6 58.3 63.5 63.9 51.6 55.7  44.3 68.0 50.4	bush.     bush.     bush.       68.5     51.8       70.6     53.5     52.3       74.8     60.3     33.8       71.6     58.3     43.3       63.5     63.9     55.7       47.0     45.0        44.3     42.7       68.0     50.4     42.2       32.2     32.2	bush.         bush.         bush.         bush.           68·5         51·8         61·7           55·0         59·5         56·5           70·6         53·5         52·3         63·4           71·6         58·3         43·3         58·6           63·5         63·9         63·0         63·0           51·6         55·7         47·0         44·4           44·3         42·7         55·9           68·0         50·4         42·2         48·0           32·2         55·1         45·1         48·0	bush.         bush. <th< td=""><td>1922 1923 1924 1925 Average for years grown for same years  bush. bush. 68.5 51.8 61.7 60.6 53.1  70.6 53.5 52.3 63.4 59.9 58.5  74.8 60.3 33.8 65.2 58.5 58.5  71.6 58.3 43.3 58.6 57.9 58.5  71.6 58.3 43.3 58.6 57.9 58.5  71.6 55.7 47.0 51.4 56.3  68.0 50.4 42.2 48.0 52.1 58.5  68.0 50.4 42.2 48.0 52.1 58.5  61.7 61.7</td></th<>	1922 1923 1924 1925 Average for years grown for same years  bush. bush. 68.5 51.8 61.7 60.6 53.1  70.6 53.5 52.3 63.4 59.9 58.5  74.8 60.3 33.8 65.2 58.5 58.5  71.6 58.3 43.3 58.6 57.9 58.5  71.6 58.3 43.3 58.6 57.9 58.5  71.6 55.7 47.0 51.4 56.3  68.0 50.4 42.2 48.0 52.1 58.5  68.0 50.4 42.2 48.0 52.1 58.5  61.7 61.7

(Project Ce 5)

Oat varieties are tested on both fallow and stubble-land. On an average, oat varieties grown on spring-ploughed stubble-land yielded 22 per cent less than when grown on fallow. As will be seen in the table of comparative yields for a number of years, Gerlach, Victory, Gold Rain, and Banner are highest in yield in the order mentioned.

Gerlach.—A selection made by the University of Saskatchewan from a variety grown by Mr. Paul Gerlach, ripening about two days earlier than Banner and weighing, on an average for the past three years, 37½ pounds per measured bushel.

Victory.—A Swedish variety, kernels somewhat shorter than Banner, usually ripens with Banner, and weighing, these past three years, an average of 39½ pounds per bushel.

Gold Rain.—Ripens usually about two days earlier than Banner, weighs well per measured bushel, having a three-year average weight of 43 pounds per bushel. The dull yellow colour of the hull is its chief objection with some people.

Laurel, O. 474.—A new, hulless variety which grows a larger kernel than Liberty, another hulless, more commonly grown and better-known variety.

The early varieties yield considerably less than the late varieties at this Station.

Barley Grown on Fallow—Test of Varieties and Strains 1/100-acre plots—Triplicated. Sown May 12.

Swift Current Number	Variety	Date ripe	Number of days maturing	Length of straw	Strength of straw on scale of ten points	Stand	Yield grain per acre
15	Hannchen	Aug. 10	. 91	inch 28	8.83	Fairly thick	bush.
2 22	Bearer O. 475 Charlottetown No. 80	" 11.	. 92	31 28	8.0	Thick	39·6
10 23 20	Duckbill Trebi Junior O. 471	" 9 " 11	. 90 . 92	25 25 31	9·0 9·2 9·0	Normal	38 · 2 36 · 9 34 · 8
16 17 9	O.A.C. No. 21. Bark's Chinese O. 61	" 17.	98	32 23 31	9·0 9·5 9·0	"	34 · 3 33 · 8 32 · 4
14 25 16	O.A.C. 21 (Sask. 228) Guymayle	" 11. " 8.	. 92 . 89	31 24 28	9.0 8.0 8.8	"	26 · 9 26 · 1
13	Albert Feeder O. 561	J	91	32 32	9.0	" ::	17 - 8

Barley—Grown on Spring-ploughed Stubble—Test of Varieties of Strains 1/100-acre plots—triplicated. Sown May 12

Swift Current Number	Variety	Date ripe	Number of days maturing	Length of straw	Strength of straw on scale of ten points	Stand	Yield grain per acre
	•			inch			bush.
21 23 16 10 20 17 25 19 16	Hannchen Charlottetown 80 Bearer O. 475. Trebi Albert Duckbill Junior O. 471 Barks Gymayle Feeder O. 561 O.A.C. 21 O.A.C. 21 (Sask. 228) Chinese O. 61	" 17 " 15 " 11 " 8 " 14 " 19 " 9 " 10 " 11	89 98 96 92 89 95 92 100 90 90 92 92	26 24 24 23 26 26 26 30 18 20 33 29 29	8·5 8·3 9·0 8·8 8·5 9·0 9·0 9·0 9·0 9·0 8·8 8·8	Normal Fair " " Fair to Normal Fair. Patchy Fair." " "	21·3 20·9 20·0

(Project Ce 6)

Barley varieties are grown on both fallow and stubble-land. Some varieties show a difference in yield of as much as 40 per cent in favour of the fallow land

Barley varieties, like other cereals, vary considerably from year to year in relative yields. For this reason, it is very important to collect data over a period of years before making any decision as to the most suitable varieties.

Hannchen.—A Swedish two-rowed selection out of an Austrian variety called Hanna. Under favourable moisture conditions it will lodge badly.

Bearer, O-475.—A six-rowed, awned variety from a cross made in 1903 between Blue Longhead and Gordon, the latter a cross from Baxter's Six-row and Duckbill.

Charlottetown No. 80.—A two-rowed, bearded selection made at the Experimental Station, Charlottetown, P.E.I., from Old Island Two-rowed. It has a tendency to drop its awns before and during harvest.

Peas—Test of Varieties—Sown May 14 on Ploughed Corn-Stubble

1/50-acre plots—triplicated.

Swift		Date	Average of triplicates	
current number	Variety	ripe	Length of straw	Yield peas per acre
			inches	bush.
11 4 23 12 13 7	Carleton Golden Vine Chancellor Golden Vine Sask. No. 625. Arthur O. 18 Canadian Field	" 27 " 14 " 15 " 19	26 30	31·4 29·1 26·2 26·2 25·1 24·5

While the pea crop was not so successful as it was in 1924, all the varieties made good growth and produced good yields of vines as well as grain. (Project Ce. 7).

### FLAX—Test of Varieties—Sown on Disked Corn-Stubble May 13 1/50-acre plots—triplicated

Swift		Variety Date Number of days maturing	Number	Length of straw	Yield of grain per acre	
current number	Variety		including	1925	Three- year average	
				inches	bush.	bush.
2 4 1 3	Novelty. Common. Premost. Crown.	10,	90	24 24 26 24	$8.9 \\ 7.6 \\ 7.3 \\ 7.1$	14·0 14·5 12·7 12·4

This year, yields of all varieties of flax were somewhat lower than usual. Differences in yield have not been sufficient to justify any claim of marked superiority of one over the others. Flax wilt has not been observed in any of the flax plots. (Project Ce. 9).

Fall Rye-Test of Varieties Sown on Fallow Sept. 2, 1924 1/50-acre plots.

Swift current number	Variety	Date ripe	Length of straw including head	Yield grain per acre
8 6 10 7 9 5	Rosen Sask. No. 299. Advance. Common. N. Dakota No. 295. N. Dakota No. 959. Swedish Sask. No. 669.	" 21 " 21 " 18	inches 46 44 41 44 42 44	bush.  26.7 25.8 25.6 23.7 21.5 21.1

All varieties made strong growth in the fall and went into winter well rooted. The varieties reported in the table were grown in an area which was covered with snow a good part of the winter, and very little winter-killing resulted. Other plots of Swedish, Advance, and N. Dakota 959, not reported in the table, were located in an area on which the snow did not lie during the winter. This was apparently the cause of considerable winter-killing on these plots. (Project C. 11.)

Wheat and Flax—Combination Crop Sown May 4 on Fall-ploughed Land 1/50-acre plots—triplicated.

		seeded acre				d of grain er acre	
Стор	Wheat	Flax	Wheat	Flax	Wheat	Flax	
-	lbs.	lbs.	inches	inches	bush.	bush.	
Wheat alone. Flax alone. Wheat and flax. Wheat and flax. Wheat and flax.	70 50 35 25	30 10 15 20	24 24 24 24	22 15 15 15	19·7 5·6 5·6 4·5	4·2 1·3 1·4 1·4	

In this test, plots which were seeded wholly or partly to flax were somewhat more weedy than those which were seeded to wheat alone at the normal rate of seeding. This fact accounts for the low yields of both flax and wheat when grown in combination. (Project C. 58.)

#### FORAGE CROPS

The forage-crop work is carried out along the lines laid down in previous years. The object in view is the discovery of the most productive and best-adapted fodder crops for southwestern Saskatchewan. Methods of growing forage crops are also under investigation, with a view to discovering those methods which will lead to the highest possible degree of certainty of feed-supply in dry seasons.

CORN-VARIETY TEST FOR GRAIN PRODUCTION

			Height		Yield	of ears pe	r acre
Variety	Source of seed	%Stand	of plant at harvest	Date ripe	Unripe ears	Ripe ears	% Ripe ears by weight
			inches		lbs.	lbs.	
Improved Squaw Burleigh County	Home-grown selection	92	30	Aug. 15		2,380	100
MixedGehuGehu	G. H. Hoffman, Maple Creek Home-grown select.	94 98 98	39 46 48	Sep. 18	1,190	1,870 1,360 1,530	100 53 100
N. Dak. White Flint	A. E. McKenzie					·	
"	Seed Co	90	58	Sep. 25		2,380	. 82
ee 16	Maple Creek Home-grown select	93 94	52 36	" 20 Aug. 12	510	3,400 2,380	86 100
Manitoba Hard Flint	G. H. Hoffman,	•-		11ug. 12		•	
Twitchell's Pride.	Maple Creek Exp. Stn., Freder-	94	44		1,360	510	27
	icton, N.B Macdonald College	94 88	48 54		1,190 1,445	1,020 850	46
	Home-grown select.	98	56		1,360	2,216	37 11

All corn varieties were allowed to stand till late in October in order to learn to what extent the different varieties would produce ripe ears. While a light frost was recorded on October 4, no severe freezing occurred until late in October. This gave the corn a chance to ripen. (Project Ag. 2.)

DATES OF PLANTING CORN FOR GRAIN PRODUCTION

Wasi dan	Date	Date emerged	Height at harvest	Yield of grain (corn and cob) per acre		
Variety	planted			Unripe	Ripe	% Ripe
			inches	lbs.	lbs.	
N. W. Dent	" 10 " 20 " 30 June 9	June 4 " 13 " 21 May 23 " 25 June 4	54 54 52 50 36 36 36 36	2,295 2,771 2,040 3,694 1,904	1,224 697 459 306 3,485 3,570 4,250 3,400 3,910	34·7 20·0 18·3 9·8 

In the case of Northwestern Dent, yields of ripe corn decreased from the first to the last date of sowing. With Improved Squaw, on the other hand, all dates of seeding produced good yields of ripened ears.

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Corn—Rows vs. Hills for Fodder Production

		Spacing	Height	Detern	ained from	3 plots
Variety	Method	or plants per hill	when cut	Green weight per acre	% dry matter	Dry weight per acre
		inch.	inch.	lbs.	%	lt s.
" " " " " " " " " N. D. White Flint		6 9 12 18 18 plants 2 3 4 5 inches	64 64 64 64 64 64 64 64	14,242 17,975 18,833 18,833 11,711 13,642 13,599 14,371 15,015 14,586	19·73 23·93 24·12 27·64 23·44 20·70 28·32 25·68 24·90 25·00	2,809 4,301 4,542 5,205 2,745 2,823 3,851 3,690 3,738 3,646 2,919
	Rows 42" apart Rows 42" apart	6 9 12 18 plants	50 50 50 50	10,810 10,810 13,599 12,741	28 · 52 27 · 64 24 · 80 30 · 37	3,083 2,987 3,372 3,869
<i>u u</i>	Hills 42" by 42" Hills 42" by 42" Hills 42" by 42" Hills 42" by 42" Hills 42" by 42"	1 2 3 4 5	50 50 50 50 50	12,655 12,870 13,942 12,741 13,427	24·51 29·39 25·19 25·78 27·05	3,101 3,782 3,398 3,284 3,632

In this test all rows were spaced 42 inches apart and hills were checked at 42-inch intervals. Due to the suckering habit of the varieties used in this test, there is a tendency for the thinly planted plots to approximate the thickly planted ones in number of stalks per acre. This growth habit to some extent destroys the difference in yield which might be expected to result from different spacings of plants; however, it can be seen that some spacings produce considerably higher yields of dry matter than others. (Project Ag. 4.)

SUNFLOWERS—TEST OF VARIETIES

~							
Variety	Source of seed	% stand	Date of bloss'g	Height at harvest	Average Green weight per acre	yield of to	Dry weight per acre
		~		,			
	!	%		inches	lbs.	%	lbs.
Russian Giant	Dak. Imp. Seed Co.	98	Aug. 25	70	22,646	20.73	4,677
Mammoth Russian	C.P.R	95	" 15	54	14,560	19.39	2,828
Mixed Russian	K. McDonald	98 93	" 29 " 26	50 46	15,032 13,875	$18 \cdot 20 \\ 18 \cdot 29$	2,781
Manchurian	C.P.R	99	" 12	46	14.562	18·29 17·41	2,532 2,524
Black	C.P.R	94	" 10	42	13.474	18.62	2,508
Manteca	$[\mathbf{C.P.R}]$	95	" 18	42	12,613	17.52	2,202
Uttawa No. 76	$(C,E,F,\dots,\dots)$	96	" 15	48	11,123	18.75	2,075
mennonite	C.P.R	96	" 3	36	9,172	18.81	1,725
-	ı <b>_</b>		1 1				

The yield per acre, both in green weight and dry matter, of Giant Russian far exceeded all other varieties. (Project Ag. 76.)

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#### SUNFLOWERS-HILLS VS. Rows

${f Method}$	Spacing or plants per hill	Height when cut	Thick- ness of stems when cut	Green wt. per acre	Per cent dry matter	Dry wt. per acre
	in.	in.	in.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Rows 42" apart " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	3 6 9 12 19 plants 1 2 3 4	52 257 63 65 63 75 73 70 65 66	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	20,077 19,605 20,592 17,674 15,229 11,583 12,312 13,513 12,441 14,500	23.93 23.05 24.51 22.66 23.94 25.10 23.53 25.39 25.00 24.90	4,804 4,518 5,047 4,004 3,644 2,907 2,897 3,430 3,110 3,610

This test is conducted on spring-ploughed wheat-stubble land. All row plantings considerably outyielded hill plantings of corresponding density. The hill crops were more easily kept clean during the summer, but the thicker plantings in rows were handled much more easily at harvest time. Considering ease of handling and relatively high yield, fairly thick planting is preferable. (Project Ag. 46.)

Alfalfa—Test of Varieties Sown on fallow, 1923

		1924 Crop		1	1925 Cro	Total yield for 1924 and 1925		
Variety	Source of seed	Green wt. per acre	Dry wt. per acre	Height when cwt.	Green wt. per acre	Dry wt. per acre	Green wt. per acre	Dry wt. per acre
M. falcata*ShoobutCossack		lb. 14,550 8,500	lb. 4,115 2,358	in. 19	lb. 6,950	lb. 2,436	lb. 21,500 8,500	lb. 6,551 2,358
GrimmGrimm	Farm.  McCannus. Commercial Lyman. Steele, Briggs.  McFayden Seed Co	8,550 6,250 4,300 4,650 4,260 2,850 2,550	2,713 2,116 1,439 1,607 1,262 951 977	16 20 11 10 9 13	3,750 3,600 2,375 1,975 1,525 2,525 2,050	1,556 1,405 1,125 917 729 1,053 995	12,300 9,850 6,675 6,625 5,785 5,375 4,600	4,269 3,521 2,564 2,524 1,991 2,004 1,972

<sup>\*</sup>Failed in 1925, due to winter-killing.

Some varieties showed partial winter-killing, with consequent unevenness of stand and weediness. M. falcata, Cossack, and McCannus Grimm Alfalfa proved entirely winter-hardy. These varieties naturally outyielded those which were partly winter-killed. (Project Ag. 126.)

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#### ALFALFA—VARIETY TEST Sown on Fallow, 1924

Variety	Source of Seed	Toimh t	Average of duplicates		
·	Bource of Beed	Height when cut	Green wt.   per acre	Dry wt. per acre	
		in.	lb.	lb.	
Cossack Grimm Baltic Cossack Grimm Turkestan Variegated	L. B. Lyman A. E. McKenzie Co. Paramount Alfalfa Farm Steele, Briggs Seed Co. A. E. McKenzie Co.	16 16 14 16 14 16 10	3,000 2,750 2,550 2,100 2,000 1,650 1,000	1,152 953 803 750 724 574 324	

(Project Ag. 126).

#### Sweet Clover—Test of Varieties

#### Sown on fallow, 1924

Variety	Source of Seed	Height when cut	Green wt. per acre	Dry wt. per acre	
-		in.	lb.	lb.	
Arctic. Yellow. Zouave No. 778. White. Grimsby County. Arctic.	Univ. of Saskatchewan A. E. McKenzie Seed Co Univ. of Saskatchewan Steele, Briggs Seed Co A. E. McKenzie Seed Co Univ. of Saskatchewan M. A. C., Winnipeg	29 26 24 28 34 24 36 18	6,600 5,940 4,860 5,040 5,580 5,160 4,440 4,020	1,902 1,622 1,538 1,524 1,514 1,451 1,244 1,115	

While Dwarf sweet clover has been tried at this Station only one year, the yield and type of growth indicate it to be a promising sort. Arctic sweet clover has generally given good results. (Project Ag. 161.)

#### FIELD CARROTS-VARIETY TEST

Variety	Source of seed	Per cent'	Green wt. per acre	Per cent dry matter	Dry wt.
		per cent	lb.	per cent	lb.
Mammoth Half Long White Long Orange Belgian Half Long White Danish Champion	Graham Bros., Ottawa	100 100 100	12,960 12,480 16,560 14,640 16,560 17,760	11·23 11·62 12·11 11·43 12·60 11·03	1,455 1,387 2,005 1,673 2,086 1,958 1,872 2,135

(Project Ag. 36)

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#### Mangels—Test of Varieties

Variety	Source of seed	Per cent stand	Yield of roots, green wt.	
		%	ton 1	lb.
Giant Sugar Rose. Giant White Feeding Sugar. Prize Mammoth Long Red. Giant Yellow Intermediate. Giant Yellow Oval. Giant Yellow Globe Red Tankard Select Giant Rose Inter-sugar	Steele, Briggs, Toronto  """"  K. McDonald & Sons, Ottawa Wm. Ewing, Montreal General Swedish Co  """"  Hjalmar Hartman  """"  """  """"	90 94 94 96 94 97 97 98 98 98 98 99 91 99	7 1,8 11 5 9 1,9 8 3 10 1 14 1,5 12 1,4 10 44 10 9 1,2 9 1,2 9 1,2 14 1,5	560 960 920 320 160 480 80 520 140 960 960 80

(Project Ag. 16).

#### FIELD TURNIPS-VARIETY TEST

				7	
Variety	Source of seed	Per cent stand	General colour of top	Yield of roots per acre green wt.	Remarks
				tons lb.	
Laing's Purple Top	Wm. Ewing, Montreal	100	Purple	14 560	85% small
Swede Hall's Westbury Swede		100	"	6 1,200	100% small
Swede Imperial Swede	A. E. McKenzie Co	100	**	11 320	95% small
Monarch Swede Hazard's Improved	Brandon	100 99	66	6 240 10 880	100% small 90% small
Swede	Steele, Briggs, Tor- onto	100	Bronze	12 720	82% small
Halewood's Bronze Top Selected Purple Top	" "	99 100	" Purple	11 1,760 11 320	90% small 85% small
Selected Westbury Canadian Gem		100 100	Bronze	11 560 10 1,600	75% small 86% small
Shepherd 1283	Copenhagen	100 100 100	Purple Bronze	8 800 8 1,040 8 320	91% small 93% small 88% small
Improved Yellow Swedish	General Swedish Co.	100	"	8 320	92% small
Superlative	A. E. McKenzie Co., Brandon	100 100 100	" Purple Bronze	7 1,120 8 1,760 6 960	95% small 89% small 94% small
Bangholm Club Root Resistant	Exp. Stn., Charlotte-	100	Purple	9	93% small
Shepherds Golden Globe	Hjalmar Hartman,	100	Tarbia	· · · · ·	99-70 Small
Olsguard Bangholm	(openhagen	99 100	Bronze Purple	8 320 11 560	92% small 83% small

(Project Ag. 51).

#### SUGAR BEETS-VARIETY TEST

Variety	Source of seed		Per cent stand	Green wt. per acre	Per cent dry matter	Dry wt. per acre
				lb.		lb.
Rabbethge & Giesecke Dr. Bergman. Dieppe Shriber & Sons Henning & Harving. Home grown. Horning. Vilmorin's Improved 'B''		46	94 92 92 99 95 99 99	10,320 13,200 11,040 11,040 16,560 13,920 14,400 7,440	25·10 23·44 24·22 24·02 23·83 22·46 21·48 24·71	2,590 3,094 2,673 2,651 3,946 3,126 3,093 1,838

#### FIELD ROOTS

During seasons of normal or less than normal rainfall, field roots produce poor yields. It would seem, therefore, that they can have little place in the agriculture of this district because it is in such seasons that productive feed crops are most needed.