

To grow alfalfa as a cover-crop there must be a good supply of moisture during the summer months, enough to supply the trees and the crop of alfalfa. On light soils none of the crop should be removed, but should be left and disked in thoroughly.

In orchards alfalfa should be sown at the rate of from 6 to 10 lb. per acre, and irrigation-furrows put in at the time of planting not farther than 4 feet apart, and on light soils not more than 3 feet. In young orchards a strip of 4 or 5 feet should be left clean cultivated on each side of the tree-row, and this increased each year as the orchard grows.

### **Red Clover.**

Clover is an excellent soil-builder, and if used as a cover-crop will supply nitrogen and organic matter to the soil. The same



Ploughing in a rye cover-crop. Crop has been allowed to grow a little too long for best results.

difficulties are encountered with clover as with alfalfa and must be guarded against. As a rule, clover should never be left in an orchard for more than two years without being turned under. Special care should be taken with irrigating, and on light soil none of the crop should be removed, and not more than one crop on average soils. Sow about 10 lb. to the acre. Mice, gophers, etc., are usually numerous in orchards where there is a sod-crop and must be fought against.

### **Annual Cover-crops.**

Clean cultivation in the early part of the season followed by a cover-crop later is the most up-to-date and best method of handling