## August 15, 1903.

# Some Pointers on Fall Wheat Growing

Fall wheat is a staple crop in Outario, especially in the Western section. Many farmers still continue to grow from fifteen to tweenty-five acree every year. When the crop is good, as it is this year, these farmers have a large supply of good wheat to dispose of which if they sell at about 75°. per bushel will return a good profit on the investment.

Many advise the Ontario farmer to give up growing wheat and confine his attention more to live stock. This advice has been followed by a good many-fut not by all. With many it is very difficult to change over very quickly. In conversation with a young farmer lastfrom grain growing to stock raising, for the simple reason that good adoekers and leeders were not to be had at any price. One or two farmers in a district might successfully devote all their attention to stock raising, but if all of them decided to do so there would not be nearly enough animals to go round, and to get a supply of one's own raising growing which he beliaved would pay as well as anything else this year.

There are many farmers similarily situated, who, if they wished to do so ever so much, could not change over to stock raising if they tried. To these a few pointers on preparing for the fall wheat crop will be helpful. In our opinion, the most successful wheat grower of to-day is the farmer who practises a definite system of clovering. Sow clover, and after cut-ting for hay, let the second crop be plowed under and you have a most excellent condition of soil for fall wheat or any other grain crop. During the past few weeks we have visited several farms where clovering is largely practised, and the improvement in the crops was most marked. Though all wheat is good this year, that sown on clover plowed down is almost in every case exceptionally good. A week ago we saw a field that should go 35 bushels per acre that was sown on October 7, which is very late, on clover plowed down. The oldtime summer fallow has served a good od purpose in preparing and caning land for fall wheat, but the more modern method of clovering is much ahead of it. The land ing is much ahead of it. The land is not idle for a season and is much enriched by the plowing under of the clover crop, which should he as near maturity as possible before being turned under. Scientists tell us that an acre of crimon clover will mature \$30 worth of nitrogen. Even if we cut this in two we have a value in fertilizing material add-ed to the land of what an average at crop will vield.

If at all practical, a clover crop should be turned under several weeks before the wheat is sown. This will give time to the vegetable matter to at least partially decay before the wheat is seeded, during which time important chem-ical changes take place. But with fall wheat this cannot very well be done and the custom is to plow down the clover and sow the wheat shortly after. While this plan does not give much nourishment to the plant from the clover in the fall, it helps it wonderfully in the spring. In the case of wheat from late sow ing referred to above, the crop this spring did not appear to be worth leaving. It was, however, harrowed, and after the rains came and the decayed clover got to work, a wonderful transformation took place.

A good condition for a fall wheat crop is after a spring crop, especially peas, sown on clover plowed down. When turned up for wheat the decayed 'clover is mixed with the surface soil and forms a splendid seed bed for the wheat plant. An ordin\_ry sod turned in this way will also give good results.

As to preparation of the land for wheat, the soil should be in as fine tilth on the surface as possible. This can only be got by liberal surface tillage, which will pay with all grain crops. Taking one season with another, early sowing is best, though some seasons, if the fall is favorable, late sowing will do as well. During the average season, seeding attry September 20th may be considered late, and the success of the crop after that date will depend largely upon the condition of the land and the weather. If there is a lot of good growing weather in the fall, late sown may equal if not excel the early sown.

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### Handling and Threshing Beans

Excepting, perhaps, in Kent and Essex Counties in Ontario, the growing of beans is not extensively carried on in Canada. In these counties, however, beans form the chief crop of many a farmer, who has made a good profit out of the business.

The most difficult problem in bean culture is curing and threshing, but with a little care this is easy enough. If beans are well ripened before being pulled and thrown in pulse, they will be ready to thresh inside of a week. The piles should be small and in case of rain turned over. Beans should not be stacked or hauled into a barn, for the reason that it is not possible to handle beans when they are dry enough to keep in stack or piled up anywhere without 'shelling them. Even if they could be handled they would sweat and get too tough to threah without a pitting. Besides, beans lose their flavor and color when allowed to aveat in the pod. In the Western States they threah beans without a machine especially constructed for the purpose by putting a top box on a wagon and diving beans out with a common fork. When they get ten or fiften bushels they acreen them out in the wind if there happens to be one, and sack them up. If there is no wind, they sack them as they are. They do not attempt to thresh in the foremoon, or later than five in the afternoon, and never attempt to thresh in this way unless the beans are very dry and the day clear and sunny.

An ordinary fanning mill will clean beans quite well or they may be cleaned in a good stiff wind by letting them fall, say ten feet. The following method will clean

The following method will clean them about as well as hand picking: Stretch a gunny-sack at an angle of 45 degrees and in front of this put a board. Let the beans fall on' this from a considerable height. If the board is set at the right distance from the sack the sound, clear beans will jump over the board, while the dirt and cracked beans will fall down at the lower edge of the sack.

## Ventilating Farm Buildings

A system of ventilating farm buildings largely in use in the Western States, and one of the best invented, is the King method. The accompanying illustration shows how it is operated.

The out-take flues are "c. c." with an opening at "d" provided with a door or some means of opening and closing.

These flues have their openings about 18 inches from the floor, provided with a damper, one on each aide, passing up through the ceiling and out at the highest point of the barn. They can be built of wood or galvanized iron. Wood is preferable on account of being a nonconductor of heat.

They must be tight and thoroughly insulated in order tommain-



tain a temperature of the air high enough to prevent condensation. One flue, I ft.  $x \ge 1$  inside measure, will be necessary for every Io to 12 cows.

The intake fue "E F," as shown with an opening at "A," with the outlet at "B," need not be over 6 or 7 inches in diameter, and is also provided with dampers. No definite rule can be given for the number, as much will depend upon openings near the doors of the barns.

The great value of fresh air is hardly appreciated by the average farmer. This system not only makes it possible to keep the animals warm, but at the same time to carry away the foul air and replace it with pure fresh air.