

Sown 16th May, 70 lbs. seed per acre, ripe 16th August, yield per acre, 20 bushels.

Sown 16th May, 90 lbs. seed per acre, ripe 16th August, yield per acre, 20 bush. 50 lbs.

In these experiments the flax was sown with the grain drill, cut with a blinder and threshed with the separator, care being taken to feed slowly.

#### TIME TO SOW.

Experiments were also conducted at Brandon, in 1894, in sowing at different dates, with the following results:—

Sown 11th May, 90 lbs. seed per acre, ripe 13th August, yield per acre, 18 bush. 12 lbs.

Sown 19th May, 90 lbs. seed per acre, ripe 16th August, yield per acre, 20 bush. 50 lbs.

Sown 22nd May, 90 lbs. seed per acre, ripe 22nd August, yield per acre, 21 bush. 14 lbs.

These experiments will need to be repeated for several years before any general conclusions can be drawn from them. At the Experimental Farm at Indian Head, in 1890, the heaviest crop of flax seed was produced when sown on the 17th May; while in 1891 good results were had from seed sown on the 3rd of June. From the experience thus far gained, it would appear that the best time for sowing flax throughout the Canadian North-west would be from the 15th to 25th of May. The flax plant is tender in the spring and easily injured by frost. It is less liable to injury from this cause in the autumn; but if exposed to much frost before the seed is ripe, the seeds become dark and discoloured and are then very much reduced in value.

#### FLAX GROWING IN ONTARIO CHIEFLY FOR FIBRE.

The cultivation of flax in Western Ontario has long been carried on mainly for its fibre, the yield of seed being a secondary consideration. The total area under cultivation is said to be from 12,000 to 15,000 acres, and the production of seed in this province for the year 1895 is variously estimated at from 95,000 to 120,000 bushels. The flax industry in Ontario has been stimulated and largely sustained through the operations of the enterprising firm of J. & J. Livingston, of Baden, Ont., who began the working up of flax products in 1864. This firm now operates large oil mills with double sets of presses for the manufacture of linseed oil, and twelve scutching mills for the manufacture of flax fibre, located in different parts of the western portion of the province. The oil mills are run night and day, from Monday morning to Saturday night, for the greater part of the year, and the consumption of seed is from 450,000 to 500,000 bushels annually. The quantity of oil produced varies from 15,000 to 20,000 barrels yearly, all of which finds a market in the Dominion. In ordinary seasons the greater part of the seed required is brought from Manitoba; but in 1894, when seed was scarce and dear, this firm imported 1,000 tons from the Argentine Republic, in order to keep their works partially going. This is the only linseed oil mill in operation in Ontario.