

RECIPE FOR PASTURE MIXTURE.

I mentioned the experimental farm pasture mixture, last week, which has given us such good results of all the mixtures we have tried for several years. I have been requested to give again the composition of this mixture. It is 6 pounds of Timothy, 4 pounds of Meadow Fescue, 2 pounds of Orchard grass, 1 pound of Red Top, and 1 pound of June grass. With this mixture 8 pounds of clover, 2 of Alsike, 2 of Alfalfa, 2 of White Dutch, 1 of Common red and 1 of Mammoth red. That is the best mixture we have tested.

By the Chairman :

Q. That is for permanent pasture ?

A. Yes, for permanent pasture.

NOXIOUS WEEDS.

The other subject I have been asked to speak on to-day is weeds. I have just been speaking of plants which may, perhaps, be called the most useful. The next part of my address will deal with the most useless of plants viz., Weeds.

This question of weeds is of importance to all of us in every part of the Dominion. There is no farm that is worth using which will not, unless watched carefully all the time, produce a great many weeds. The fact that a farm is found to be weedy must not always be taken as irrefutable evidence at any rate that the man farming it is a bad farmer. Allowing a farm to remain weedy may be taken as evidence that bad farming is practised, but a farm that is found to be weedy by a new occupant requires sometimes a great deal of cleaning before it is fit to use, and it may even be a question, especially on a rented farm, whether it is worth while hiring a farm at all, which is so weedy that it will cost more to check or clear off the weeds than the crop will pay back. There are actually some farms as bad as this in Canada. But when a man runs his own farm he takes more interest in it and keeps his land clean, for there is no doubt that all weeds can be eradicated and the land cleaned of these enemies if the nature of the different kinds is understood and a persistent warfare against them is kept up. This statement is made after many opportunities of seeing farms in some of the weediest districts of Canada, which have been cleaned by the farmers working hard, and particularly when they do so with a knowledge of the nature of the plants they are fighting against.

Now, all the plants classed under the one word 'Weeds' have their own special natures, and in making up a list of the hundred worst weeds, few people would include all the same kinds, for there are several which some people would think should be included from their obnoxious characteristics in certain localities which in other places are hardly known. However, there are about twenty weeds in every district which cause much loss to farmers, and the nature of these should be understood by all. What is actually the worst weed in any district is a very indefinite term, and usually the plant stigmatized as the very worst weed is simply the one which has given the individual farmer spoken to the most trouble at a recent date. I made a list some time ago of all the plants, which, according to the statements of farmers, were the very worst weeds, and found that on that list there were no less than twenty-three kinds.

STINK WEED.

To give an instance of this: In Manitoba undoubtedly the worst weed, from the loss it occasions in many ways, is the Stink Weed, also called Penny Cress, and 'French weed.' This was mentioned in last year's report of this committee. It is a most persistent nauseous weed, has thoroughly established itself, and it has shown that it has more power of resistance to all the ordinary methods of cleaning land than perhaps any other weed farmers of the west have to contend with. So much