

ending of seeding throughout the Province were April 14 and May 17 in 1884, and April 22 and May 19 in 1883. From this it will be seen that seeding began ten days earlier than in 1884, and eight days earlier than in 1883. The dates in the western and central groups vary very little, they being each about two weeks earlier than the eastern. In many townships the seeding began fully three weeks earlier than in 1884. The average quantity of seed sown per acre was 1.86 bushels as compared with 1.80 in 1884, and 1.87 in 1883. The seed has been sown rather thicker in the western and central groups than in the eastern. Of the varieties of wheat sown, Red Fyfe has been reported from 323 townships; White Fyfe from 55; Golden Drop from 9; White Russian from 13; Lost Nation from 4, and Red Chaff from 2. Red Fyfe appears to be growing in favor, as it was only reported from 242 townships in 1884. No doubt the varieties mentioned have been sown in more townships than those given, as many correspondents in giving the varieties said "Red Fyfe principally." Red Fyfe, being the principal variety, was reported from 53 townships in the eastern group; 120 in the central and 150 in the western. Last season a quantity of grain, more or less touched by frost, was used for seed, but nothing of that nature appears to have happened this season. The amount of the wheat crop of 1884 still in farmers hands on June 1, throughout the Province, was 13.96 per cent, as compared with 14.56 at a similar date in 1884, and 11.2 per cent. in 1883. In the eastern group the per centage on hand was 9.07 per cent.; in the central 12.8, and in the western 20. A large quantity of last year's crops being more or less damaged in several ways, and the distances from markets account for the large percentage held in the western group. A great many correspondents in different parts of the Province did not give any percentage, but simply said that a sufficiency for home use was kept on hand. Others, again, reported that none was held, and more said that the quantity held was scarcely worth mentioning. In order that an idea may be formed of what the product of the wheat crop in the Province is likely to be this season, it is quite safe to base the estimate on the average of the returns of yield received from threshers in 1884, which was 20.11 bushels per acre. This would show a total product for Manitoba this season of 7,179,531 bushels, or about 5,675,000 bushels for export.

OATS.

The oat crop has been very materially benefitted by the most favorable weather that prevailed during seeding time and up to June 1. Plowing having begun at an early date in the central and western

groups, a large part of the crops was got in the ground at an early date and was consequently well forward when the reports were sent in. Though seeding did not begin so early in the eastern group as in the others, still the grain was sufficiently far advanced to cause it to be favorably spoken of. It is found that oats require to be sown early as well as wheat, and, in many parts of the central and western groups, very little difference appears in the dates of seeding. A considerable amount has evidently been sown on fall plowing, but no doubt the great bulk has been sown on ground plowed during the spring. The information obtained as to the acreage under crop is much fuller than during the seasons of 1883 and 1884. The tables gives the area under crop this year in the Province, and also that of 1884; the dates on which seeding began and ended, respectively, in 1885; the average number of bushels sown per acre; the varieties of seed sown; and the number of townships from which each variety was reported, and also the percentage of the 1884 crop still held by farmers. The area shown to be under crop is 151,378 acres, as compared with 172,345 acres in 1883 and 133,004 in 1884. Of the total area the eastern group has 37,011 acres, the central 59,754, and the western 54,603. As compared with 1884, a falling off in area is shown in the eastern group of 2,043 acres, while an increased area is found in the central and western groups of 13,704 and 6,703 acres respectively. In the eastern group, however, an increased acreage is shown in the counties of Carillon, D'Iberville and Selkirk. In the central a slight falling off is shown in the county of Westbourne. In the western group a decrease is shown in the counties of Minnedosa, Russell and Souris River. The average dates of the beginning and ending of seeding throughout the Province were May 2 and May 24, as compared with May 2 and May 26 in 1884, and April 25 and May 23 in 1883. Of the several groups, seeding began and ended a week earlier in the western than in the central, and over two weeks earlier than in the eastern group. The heavy fall of rain on May 22 interfered with the work for a few days in the eastern group of counties. Seeding began nine days earlier in the western group than in 1884. In the central it was five days earlier than in 1885, while in the eastern the dates varied very little. The average quantity of seed sown per acre, throughout the Province, was 2.61 bushels, as compared with 2.55 in 1884 and 2.58 in 1883. The average quantity sown in the eastern and central groups was 2.63 bushels, and in the western 2.58 bushels. Of the varieties of seed sown, White has been reported from 104 townships; Yellow

Russian from 3; Black Tartarian from 46; Black from 132; Excelsior from 2; White Russian from 24; Black Champion from 2; White Australian from 5; Black Norway from 2, and Egyptian from 2. Black and White are the principal varieties sown, and have each been reported from many more townships than in 1884. The percentage of the 1884 crop held by farmers on June 1 was 11.7 per cent, as compared with 28.57 in 1884 and 16 in 1883. In the eastern group the percentage on hand was 7.33, in the central 11.7, and in the western 16.2. Like wheat the largest percentage is held in the western group, where a large quantity was more or less injured last fall. In very many townships none was left after seeding was completed. The product of what the present crop is likely to be may be safely calculated on the actual average yield given by threshers last year, which was 30.55 bushels per acre. This would give a total yield in the Province of 4,624,292 bushels, being an increase of over half a million bushels over last year.

Advertisements.

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