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Annual weeds, such as wild oats and wild mustard, have seeds of remarkable vitality, which will lie in the ground for years, ready to grow when given a favorable opportunity. After ground has been plowed, a large number of these seeds are brought up from the lower soil into contact with the air, and at once they germinate and grow in the crop which follows. After plowing, therefore, an effort should be made to grow some sort of hoed crop on the worst pieces, and see that none of these weeds mature their seeds. By thoroughly cultivating and hoeing throughout the season, most of the seeds in the upper layer of soil may be made to germinate, and then, before sowing a grain crop the following season, the ground should not be plowed, or, if plowed at all, not more than two or three inches deep. The aim should be to merely prepare a seed bed on the surface without disturbing the lower soil, and thus avoid bringing up fresh seeds to the surface. In a soil filled with the seeds of such weeds, deep plowing after a hoed crop practically undoes all that has been accomplished by the hoed crop. Sometimes, if a comparatively small part of the farm is infested with one of these weeds, two hoed crops can be grown in succession, which proves very effective. Thus, after the ground is plowed out of sod, it can be thoroughly cultivated until the latter part of June, and then sown with rape. After the rape has been pastured off with stock, the ground may be plowed, and the following season sown with another hoed crop, such as corn or roots, and if the cultivation of this crop is thorough, and care is taken not to plow deeply after the hoed crop, very few of these weeds are likely to appear in the succeeding crop. After the hoed crop, the ground may be sown with grain and seeded down again, and care should be taken that when it is next plowed up, a hoed crop should follow the plowing, so as to catch any seeds which may have escaped during the previous process.

Among the perennial weeds, there are some very bad ones, indeed, such as the perennial sow thistle, bind weed, and couch or twitch grass. To fight these weeds successfully, the best plan is to attack them during their period of most rapid growth, which is usually during the months of May and June. If the ground is plowed lightly in the spring, say about the middle of May, young plants will soon be seen appearing above the surface. To plow deeply at this stage is not very satisfactory, and if an implement can be secured which will cut all the young plants an inch or two under ground without disturbing the creeping root stalks below the surface, the plan will be found more satisfactory. Most of the manufacturers of ordinary spring tooth cultivators furnish broad points, which can be attached to the teeth, and which will answer very well for the purpose of cutting weeds. There is another type of cultivator, known as the "Sylvester" cultivator, made by the Sylvester Brothers, of Lindsay, which also is supplied with very broad points, and which will do very satisfactory work in the cutting weeds. By cultivating with these broad points several times during the month of June, a very serious check will be given to the underground stems, and if the work is thoroughly done, it will be found that the weeds will be very much weakened. About the end of June, or just before haying, if the farmer does not wish to have his ground lie idle throughout the season, the ground should be sown with rape in drills, and cultivation with the scuffler maintained after sowing. If the ground is rich and the rape makes a rank growth, it will be found that most of these weeds will be very seriously injured by the rape crop, after being weakened by the cultivation described. When a field is badly infested with couch grass, however, it is almost impossible to get any implement which will cut the plants. Bind weed, sow thistle, and Canadian thistle are much more easily cut than couch grass, the young shoots of which are comparatively tough. As a rule, therefore, it will be found better to make an attempt to grub out a large number of the creeping root stalks of this weed by means of plowing, cultivating with the spring tooth cultivator, harrowing, and, if