

On June 1, 1916, Winter Rye at the Saskatchewan College of Agriculture, averaged 16 inches high and was in the "shot blade," while the earliest wheat did not cover the ground, and was less than 5 inches long.

#### SOME OBJECTIONS TO WINTER RYE.

The chief objection to the use of Winter Rye in a wheat growing district is in its "volunteering." Unless care is taken the rye seeds get distributed about the farm and grow up in other crops. It is possible that a mixture of Winter Rye in wheat might lead to the lowering of the grade. There need, however, be no danger from this source if reasonable care is taken to see that the threshed grain is prevented from being distributed about the farm, or if a rye crop is followed by oats instead of wheat.

#### CULTIVATION.

On account of its ability to produce good yields when sown on soil too poor to grow other cereals, rye has been much used on light and sandy soil. It will, however, respond to a fertile soil and to good cultivation as well as any other grain. To obtain the best results the seed bed should be in fine tilth, well compacted and should contain a large amount of moisture. Summerfallow, ploughed 6 to 8 inches deep during the first week in June, harrowed immediately and well worked thereafter so that the soil is compacted, the rainfall retained, and all weeds kept down, makes an ideal seed bed for rye. As rye makes much of its growth during May, a time when there is usually very little precipitation, the importance of summerfallowing the year previous, so as to conserve all the moisture possible, cannot be over-estimated. The crop ripens early, so that damage from fall frosts need not be considered, while the early spring growth produces a stiff straw that seldom lodges. Rye should not be grown continuously on the same field, as this practice is favourable to the development of ergot. This fungus frequently attacks rye when sown in low wet land or grown repeatedly on the same field. When the crops are properly rotated there is little danger from this disease.

#### SEEDING.

Seed can be procured from any Western seed house or from farmers who are already growing the crop. Care must be taken to procure home grown seed, as the crop from imported seed will often winter kill. In Saskatchewan rye should be sown during the latter part of August so that it will have time to get well established before winter. When this is done there is very little danger of winter killing. The seed should be sown with an ordinary grain drill, being planted from 2½ inches to 3 inches deep, so that it is certain to be down into moisture. When sown on well prepared summerfallow one bushel per acre is ample. (This amount will be sown if the drill is set to sow one bushel of wheat.) Heavy seeding is apt to result in stunting the crop before the usual June rains arrive. It is perfectly safe to sow seed from a crop that has just been harvested. Late seeding or too thick seeding should be avoided. On the Agricultural College farm at Saskatoon in 1914 the highest yield was obtained from a seeding of one-half bushel per acre. Light seedings have, as a rule, given the