

sowing, accounts for their inferior quality. The soil for oats may be of any kind whatever, provided it be sufficiently, but not too dry; this grain is said to have such vigorous organs that they can dissolve and appropriate nutritious particles which would be of no use to any other kind of grain. It will grow on the most tenacious, cold, or clayey soils, as well as on marshy, gravelly, and sandy soils. It suffers from unfavourable and inclement weather, but recovers itself much sooner than barley, when the weather begins to improve. But although oats may grow upon any soil—when they are cultivated upon good and fertile soils, they are much more profitable. On strong wheat land, they are considered to pay better than barley would on the same soil. On broken-up turf or grass land, where the herbage is not decomposed, oats will always succeed well, particularly if sown in good time, and they would be still better if the plough was passed along the furrows, and the loose soil shovelled each side upon the ridges, after the seed was harrowed in. When clover lea is ploughed up in the fall, it will answer well for oats, and it is recommended by some agriculturists, to harrow the land again when the plants are just above the ground—a kind of cultivation which this grain is said to bear better than any other. When oats is sown after other grain, the soil should, if possible, receive two or three ploughings, and the last number is best. Where oats are sown after other grain, on land that has been previously infested with weeds, three ploughings are necessary to check the growth of weeds in the oat crop. Fresh manure agrees well with oats, and the greater part of it will be left in the soil for the next crop. To ensure the success of a crop of oats, it is necessary that the seed should be plump, fresh, and uninjured by fermentation or frost, previous to harvesting. Oats which have acquired an unpleasant taste or smell, while in the stack or store-house, may come up from the ground, like others, but they produce a weakly plant,

which often perishes at the flowering season, and does not come to perfection.

The great difficulty with oats is the number of weeds that grow with them here, in consequence of defective cultivation; wild mustard particularly, which must weaken the crop materially. We have heard of harrowing being tried, with good effect, after the oats have appeared above the ground. The wild mustard grows very rapidly after the oats is sown, and it was found that by a light harrowing, when the mustard appeared, it greatly checked their growth, without injuring the oats. This operation must, however, be left to the farmer's own judgment. The light harrowing, if it did not disturb the oat plants, could not fail to be beneficial, as the young mustard have a very little root in the soil when they first appear. Our samples of oats are, at present, very much deteriorated, mixed, and require a total change for seed. The black glossy oat is an excellent variety for every purpose, but we have not seen a pure unmixed sample of it for a long time.

*The Pea.*—There are many varieties of this grain. There are some kinds in which the pods form and ripen early, and the hull is not so strong as in others. These are looked upon as a more certain crop; the husk of the pea is thought to be finer, and the pea itself more tender; but the larger variety often yields the greatest amount of produce, both as regards peas and hull. That, however, to which, in the majority of cases, preference should be given is the early variety, it not being so liable to be attacked by mildew before the pods are fully formed, and from being ready to gather early. A clayey, sandy, calcareous soil, which is not too much exposed to cold, wet, or drought, is the best for peas. It is universally admitted that peas succeed best on a loose, well pulverized soil. It is said that if manure is applied, whether it is decomposed, or fresh and strawy, when spread over the soil after the sowing, is not only more advantageous to peas sown as