

Agricultural College four different species or types of alfalfa which are here described somewhat in detail.

Common or violet alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*), is the species which has been grown extensively for centuries in some of the comparatively warm countries of the world. It is this type of alfalfa which is grown almost entirely in Central America, and in Mexico, and in Texas, California, Utah, Colorado, Nebraska, and Kansas, and in other southern and central states of the American Union. The plants of the Common alfalfa have an upright growth and numerous stems which grow from the crowns of the roots. The flowers are violet in color, the coloring matter appearing in different degrees of density, extending from a comparatively deep to a very pale violet, the latter being almost white. The seed pods are coiled in two or three spirals, the seeds are kidney-shaped, and are about one-twelfth inch in length.

Variegated alfalfa (*Medicago media*), is supposed to be a natural cross between the *medicago sativa* and the *medicago falcata*. The plants are mostly upright,



A group of farmers listening to a talk on Ontario Variegated Alfalfa, the flowers of which are variegated in color, being composed of violet, blue, green and yellow, and various blends of these with each other.

but some have a spreading habit of growth. The flowers are variegated in color, and besides the violet include shades of blue, green and yellow, and various blends of these with each other and with violet. The seed of the Variegated closely resembles that of the Common alfalfa.

Yellow Lucerne (*Medicago falcata*), grows wild in some of the European and the Asiatic countries, and is considered to be very hardy. It generally has a spreading habit of growth, the stems being somewhat slender, and the leaves rather narrow. The flowers are yellow in color, the seed pods are sickle-shaped, and the seeds are somewhat smaller than those of the Common alfalfa.

The hairy-stemmed Yellow Lucerne (*Medicago ruthenica*), has a spreading habit of growth, yellow flowers with brownish centres, seeds brownish in color, flattened, distinctly lobed, and less kidney-shaped than those of the Common alfalfa.