

districts we have now growing at the experimental farm six varieties which are all distinct, not so easily separated by the botanist, because they are much alike in important structural characters; but to the agriculturist they are all distinguishable either from the lateness of the season at which they flower, the leaves, or the thickness of the bottom growth. Some of the Manitoba forms have very few stems and one of the forms found growing wild at Glacier in the Rocky Mountains is exceedingly leafy. As a lawn grass for general purposes this is the most valuable form I have ever seen.

THE HARD FESCUE

Is a grass which closely resembles Sheep's Fescue, which is invariably recommended in seed catalogues for growing in high sheep pastures. From our experiments and from correspondence, I have found that Hard Fescue produces more hay and is a more valuable grass than most of the several varieties of Sheep's Fescue of which we have been able to obtain plants or seeds. Closely resembling the Hard Fescue is the Red Fescue, and the chief difference between the two forms is that Red Fescue has underground shoots by which it spreads from the roots.

OLCOTT'S RED FESCUE.

Of all the different varieties which we have grown or imported, there is one called Olcott's Red Fescue No. 1, which was discovered by Mr. J. B. Olcott, a well-known specialist in grasses living in South Manchester, Connecticut. He has separated this from a great many hundred different kinds, and it is certainly the most remarkable form of this species for lawn purposes I have ever seen.

Some years ago Mr. Olcott sent me a little sod which I divided carefully and I have now two splendid beds of it. I have also a plot grown from seed which comes true to the variety. It is a very deep rich green, with long fine hair-like leaves, and is perfectly hardy. It is a most valuable grass for lawns and far exceeds in this respect any of the other forms of Red Fescue, I know. There is a great difference in the various varieties, and there is almost as much variation in some of these wild grasses as among the cultivated forms. I mention this grass now because I have a small quantity of seed to spare, and I shall be glad to give it to any one who is especially interested in lawn grasses.

COCK'S FOOT GRASS.

By Mr. Burnett :

Q. Have you had any experience with Cock's foot?

A. Yes, we grow it every year. It is an excellent grass, exceedingly succulent, a heavy cropper and tolerably hardy. It likes a deep soil and is a rather heavy feeder. It is also a very hardy grass in the way of resisting drought, staying in the land for years if only it once gets a good start. There is sometimes difficulty in getting the young plants through the first winter. It is very much like Alfalfa in that respect. I have tried it on several different plots at the experimental farm and found some difficulty in getting it to take well. It is exceedingly quick in recovering after cutting, shooting up two or three inches in a night after a rain. It is an early grass and is ready to cut by June 20, and should be cut early. This grass particularly requires early cutting, much more so than other grasses because it is apt to get woody and hard, when cattle will not eat it. It is the same grass as we call Orchard grass in this country.

By Mr. Sproule :

Q. How much do you use of this Olcott's Red Fescue?

A. The seed is not in the market at all. It cannot be bought, I have a few ounces of it which I shall be glad to give to any one.

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