

FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION AND INTERNATIONAL SHOW SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Association will be held at Wolfville, on Thursday, 30th January next, at two p. m. Questions of grave importance with regard to the future of the Association will be presented for consideration, and all persons interested in fruit-growing or in the future operations of the Association are invited and requested to attend the meeting, whether members of the Association or not.

By order.

J. R. HEA, *Secretary.*

WOLFVILLE, Dec., 1872.

NEW MEMBERS OF BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

Intimations have been received of the election of the following members:—

Antigonish County,—Colin Chisholm, Esq., Marydale.

Colchester County,—Ismael Longworth, Esq.

Guysborough County,—George Cameron, Esq.

MANGEL WURZEL

We are indebted to the *North Sydney Herald* for the following judicious and suggestive article, on the subject of Mangel Wurzel or Field Beet:—

This Root is raised extensively in some parts of Europe and the United States, for feeding Cattle in winter, and for this purpose is very valuable. It is the most nutritious of all our esculent roots, except the potato. It is hardy and reliable, keeps well in winter, and is especially prized for feeding of milk cows during the winter months. It is well known that Turnips fed to milk cows imparts to the milk a strong rank taste, but let the Mangle be fed to them, and the sweetness of both butter and milk, is, on the contrary, improved, from the large proportion of saccharine matter it contains. As a winter feed for cattle it has many advantages over the potato. It is not subject to rot in the field or in the cellar, and the produce is more than double. The large quantity of green tops it also throws out are of some value, as all animals eat them with great avidity. Again to plant an acre with potatoes requires about twenty bushels of seed—value \$10.00—while two pounds of seed is sufficient for an acre of Mangle—value \$2.00. I have been cultivating this root on a small scale for several years, solely as feed for my milk cows, and can testify from experience as to its

value. This fall, I took seventy six bushels off a plot of ground one hundred by fifty feet—less than the eighth of an acre. The cultivation of the field beet is much the same as the turnip, both requiring the soil to be in good condition, and well manured; with this difference, however, that while the former should not stand over eight inches apart in the rows, the latter requires to be ten inches at least. That the field beet is entirely free from the attacks of the fly, as several writers have asserted is not true. I have had the young plants frequently much cut up by the insect; but it is true that the fly is not so very destructive to the mangle as it is to the turnip.

Although, Mr. Editor, we must reluctantly admit, that neither our soil nor our climate is suited to the raising of wheat, to any great extent, and that it is doubtful if ever our Farmers can dispense with the importation of foreign flour, we can, however, vie with any County in the production of root crop, and can defy the world to exhibit finer potatoes than are raised in our Island. And in view of our cold, long winters, during which (generally seven months) our cattle are fed on dry hay and straw, it is surprising that our Farmers do not pay more attention to the cultivation of root crops for winter feed. In no country in the world is this more needed, than in ours, and yet in no country is it so much overlooked. But I must for the present wind up, not wishing to take up too much of your time or space. I am fully satisfied that you, Mr. Editor, will be always ready to afford both time and space to any judicious hints or remarks from our more intelligent Farmers, in reference to the progress of Agriculture in our Island. L. R.

AVERAGE YIELD AND HOME PRICE OF FARM CROPS.

(From Dec. Report of the U. S. Commissioner of Agriculture.)

YIELD PER ACRE.—The average yield of Corn per acre, as reported by correspondents, stands highest in Iowa, 40.8 bushels, the Illinois average being 39.6, that of Indiana 39.8, and of Ohio 39.5. The average of the States of the fertile parallel is within a fraction of 40 bushels, those of Pennsylvania and Nebraska being 39 bushels, and that of New Jersey 39.5 bushels. New England, with her garden-patches of corn, returns 31 bushels for Massachusetts and Rhode Island, 32.2 for Connecticut, 36.1 for Maine, and 38.2 for New Hampshire. In New York the average presented is 37.5. Texas makes the highest southern average, 28.5 bushels, declining to 24.3 in Arkansas, and 24 in Tennessee, and to 17.5 in Mississippi, to 13 in Georgia; the lowest average being 9.6 in Florida.

The highest Wheat returns are those of Minnesota, California, and Texas; the lowest are those of South Carolina, the range being from 6.4 to 18.7 bushels per acre. The rate is materially higher in Gulf coast States than in the Southern Atlantic States, increasing from Georgia westward.

The rate of yield for Rye stands lowest in South Carolina, and highest in California, the range being from 6.2 bushels to 29.1 bushels. A reference to the tables will show the variation in these averages, which are in most cases higher than those of wheat.

The highest average for Oats is 40 bushels for Nebraska; the lowest is 8 bushels for South Carolina. Averages ranging from 40 down to 30 bushels come in the following order: Nebraska, Iowa, California, Minnesota, Illinois, Rhode Island, Vermont, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, New Hampshire, Texas, Kansas, Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan.

Kansas makes an average of 28.2 bushels for Barley, and West Virginia 11.5. The only averages above 100 bushels of potatoes per acre are those of Minnesota, Texas, Oregon, Connecticut, Vermont, Massachusetts, and North Carolina.

The averages for Hay range from seven-tenths of a ton in Maryland to 1.45 tons in Illinois.

PRICES.—Prices of cereals rule comparatively low, corn especially bearing prices that can scarcely repay the expenses of cultivation in many of the Western States. Where fuel is scarce and dear, the old practice of burning corn has been revived. In some instances it has been economically used in manufactories. There is a wide range of prices in the several counties in a State, those upon through lines of railroad showing higher rates; but wider differences are caused by disparities between local supply and demand. There are new counties in frontier regions, with small production and increasing population from immigration, in which prices are almost as high as in eastern cities.

Averaging the local prices of corn, the lowest rate is 18 cents per bushel in Nebraska and Iowa, while that of Kansas is 22, and Illinois 24. Going eastward it rises to 29 in Indiana, 34 in Ohio, 60 in Pennsylvania, and 60 in New Jersey. The range in New England is from 84 in Vermont to 95 in New Hampshire. The average for New York is 70 cents. One bushel of corn in Massachusetts appears to be worth five in Iowa. In the South the rate is highest in Florida, at \$1.20 per bushel, and lowest in Texas, 43 cents. The price increases from Delaware to South Carolina, the rates being, in their order, respectively, 55, 57, 58, 62, and 96 cents; in Alabama 78, Georgia 86, and 88 in Mississippi and Louisiana.

The averages for wheat range between