

compass, and the breadth due east and west. *This wire must be placed from two to three inches deep in the soil.* The lines of the buried wire are then completed. The *suspended wire must be attached and in contact with the buried wires at both of its ends.* A wooden pin with a staple must therefore be driven in at A, and the two poles (one 14 feet and the other 15 feet) being placed by the compass due north and south, the wire is placed over them, and fastened to the wooden stake, but touching likewise at this point the buried wire. The suspended wire must not be drawn too tight, otherwise the wind will break it.

## The Canadian Agricultural Journal.

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### AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR APRIL.

We have not seen a more backward spring sowing time than the present, during our residence in Canada. There is up to this time, scarcely any work done in the fields. When the land is in a fit state for working, every physical exertion, both of man and horse, will be required to get the seed into the ground in proper time, before it will be too late. In such seasons as the present, the want of sufficient draining is most clearly seen. When the sowing is retarded in spring, the fall ploughed land, if not of open quality or well drained, requires to be ploughed again to fit it for a crop. We believe, however, that a large portion of the land intended for spring sowing has yet to be ploughed, in consequence of the winter commencing so early (the 28th of October) last fall, that ploughing was suspended nearly a month before the usual time. If the weather now sets in fine, we may yet be able to complete the sowing and ploughing in reasonable time, as wheat may, perhaps, be more safely sown the latter end of May, when not sown before now. We have abundance of wheat for seed, that will succeed with late sowing, not being very liable to the disease of rust, and not coming into ear until the danger of the fly is nearly over. A change of seed is very essential. When the same seed is sown upon the same ground for a series of years, it seldom fails to exhibit all the characteristics of weakness and degeneracy, and falls off in both quantity and quality. Wheat should be changed annually, and the farmer will always find it his interest to purchase that from a different or worse soil than he proposes to sow it in, provided the wheat is of the variety required—clean, without

any mixture; it is not of much consequence that the grain should be small, as this may proceed from causes that will not injure it as seed for a future crop. The grand requisite, is to have the soil in good order. In cattle as well as plants, changing from a better soil to an inferior, is sure not to be profitable. On the contrary, when the breed or seed is of the proper sort, each should be chosen from soils and situations, not superior to that to which they are brought. For late and elevated districts, the early varieties of oats should be selected and brought from an earlier and less elevated locality. And a change from a high to a lowland district seldom disappoints expectation, with either oats, barley or potatoes. When the ground is in high condition the less seed is required, and *vice versa*. But no general rule can be laid down, for it is sometimes requisite for the sower to change his hand two or three times in one field. The quantity of seed generally sown in England, is about three bushels to the statute acre. But we conceive that in Canada, two minots is generally sufficient for the arpent, if the oats is good and sound, and the land in good condition: and the same quantity of barley will answer. Vetches or tares, when intended to be fed out to stock in summer in a green state, might be sown at two or three intervals of fourteen days, so that they may come in in succession, green and in the best state for feeding. In England, the quantity of seed sown to the acre, is from 100 lbs. to 112 lbs., but we think a less quantity would do here. Some ground is very greedy for seed; and the farmer's own experience in reference to thick or thin sowing upon his own farm should be a better guide to him than anything which can be written upon the subject. This applies to every species of seed sown by the farmer.

When vetches are intended for the feeding of cows, it is advisable to sow about a quarter of a pound of feeding rape with every stone of vetches. We have heard that this plan is eminently calculated to promote the secretion of milk in cows, while, on the other hand, it is said that vetches alone have a tendency to cause cows to fall off in milk but to improve their condition in a high degree. Vetches can be covered with the harrow.

Clovers and grasses should never be sown on ground which is not both rich and clean, always with the *first grain crop after manure*,