1208

## Home Grown vs. Commercial Seed

(4)

#### Canadian Seed Has Proved Superior

O NE of the reasons why root seed growing has not been practised to any extent in

Canada before, is the rather widely spread idea that Canadia climatic conditions are not as favorable to the production of high-class seed as are the conditions in those European countries upon which Canada has relied in the past for her seed supply. In other words, the European countries have been supposed, by virtue of more sufable soil and climatic conditions, to be capable of raising seed producing larger root crops of higher quality than Canada ever could be expected to do. A similar conception is also very common in the United States. Such a conception has no foundation and is entirely wrong.

Experiments conducted the last few years by the Experimental Farms System all over the Dominion, most conclusively prove that Canadian grown seed in no respect is inferior to imported

seed. On the contrary, it produces better crops than does In imported seed. support of this statement the results obtained in 1916 with home-grown seed of varieties of mangels and swede turnips in comparison with imnorted seed of the same varieties may briefly be summarized. Some Tests With Mangels.

Mammoth Long Red Mangel seed, raised at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, in 1915, produced a root crop in 1916, which averaged, when tested at nine of the Dominion Experimen-

tal Stations, over two and four-fifths tons more to the acre than imported seed of the same variely. Mammoth Long Red Mangel seed grown at Charlottetown, P.E.T., was tested at Charlottetown and Ottawa and produced about half a ton of roots more to the acre than imported seed of the same variety, and this in spite of the fact that the Charlottetown seed was harvested under most unfavorable conditions. Seed of the same variety, raised at Kentville, N.S., gave a root crop at that station which exceeded the crop realized from the imported seed by close to three and a half tons to the acre.

Yellow Intermediate Mangel seed, originated at Ottawa, was tested at seven experimental stations and produced, on the average, three tons 750 pounds more roots to the acre than imported seed; seed of the same variety raised at Oharlottetown. P.E.I., tested at six stations, yielded an average of one ton and three-quarters to the acre in excess of imported seed.

Danish Sludstrup Mangel seed, raised at Agassiz, B.C.; Kentville, N.S., and Charlottelown, P. E.J., respectively, was leading with, on the average, about half a ton to the acre in comparative tests with imported seed of the same variety, conducted on a number of stations.

Kangaroo Swede Turnip seed, raised at Fredericton, N.B., and tested at five experimental stations in Eastern Canada, gave an average yield of two tons, and three-quarters in excess of the imported seed, grown in comparison with it.

Experience Favors Canadian Seed. It is rather obvious, from these figures, that

### FARM AND DAIRY

there is no foundation whatsoever for the con ception that European-grown seed of field roots is superior to Canadian-grown. On the contrary, the figures furnish a strong argument in favor of Canadian-grown seed being used in preference to imported seed. It is true that in some instances the imported seed produced yields only slightly behind those of Canadian seed, but what is of real importance is this: In no single case did the Canadian-grown seed fall behind, in yielding capacity, the same variety of European seed. This is the more encouraging as in most cases the Canadian seed was raised from roots, a great percentage of which would, under no circumstances, have been accepted by European growers as fit for seea production.

Under the circumstances there seems no reason why Canada should, in the future, rely on foreign countries for aer root seed supply. There is an opening, now, for a new agricultural industry and, indeed, it is believed that the development and firm stablishment of that industry will bring unthought of advantages to Canadian farming in general.



A New Idea in Demonstration Car Work in the West.

The car seen herewith was part of a demonstration train which toured parts of Saskatchewan has summer. Taiks on live stock judging ware given direct from the floor of the car, representative animals of the beef and dairy breads being used to improve more fully the points in judging emphasized by the speakers.

## Ready Mixed Dairy Feed A Cooperative Selling Scheme in New York

O NE of the most interesting departures in the dairy feed world is the plan which has been

arranged by the Dairymen's League of New York State, for the mixing on a large scale of feed to formulae approved by the best feeding experts, and the selling of this feed to dairy farmers at nominal costs. The balancing of rations for dairy cattle is work that is often not thoroughly understood by many feeders. The Dairymen's League, therefore, resolved to have experts on rations draw up certain formulae for dairy feeds and have the dairy feed manufacturers mix their grains according to these formulae. These feeds are then to be distributed to members of the Dairymen's League and other dairymen at prices allowing but a nominal profit to the manufacturer over the wholesale cost of the individual feeds for his trouble in mixing them.

As the result of cooperative effort between the Dairymen's League and certain manufacturers, dairy feeds are now being marketed which are guaranteed to be mixed according to certain formula elial down by the State College of Agriculture. The legend on the front of a bag of feed for instance, is as follows: "100 has net; Dairymen's League dairy feed; made according to formulae 20; New York State College of Agriculture." (Name of manufacturer.) On the back of the bag is the guarantee: "Twenty per cent far."

#### November 8, 1917.

The guaranteed ingredients are mixed together according to the general formula; 100-500 1ha ground barley; 100-600 lbs. ground oats; 100-400 lbs. corn feed meal; 100-500 lbs oil meal, 100-800 Ibs. gluten feed, 100-600 lbs. wheat bran; 160-500 lbs. brewers' grains, 100-400 lbs. malt sprouts; 100-500 lb; cottonseed meal, 100-800 lbs. hominy. This is a representative formula. The manufacturer contracting under this formula must mix the feeds within the limits specified, thus there shall not be less than 100 lbs, of each. The sliding scale with upper and lower limits is given so that the actual mixture may be changed according to the market, and thus the farmer derives the benefit in his mixed feed of the law of supply and demand. Different mixtures will be known by different formulae numbers.

It is planned to give to the exact formulas as well as the general formulas as much publicity as possible. For example, the feed now being manufactured under Formula 20 by Hales and Edwards has this mixture: Cround barley, 100 pounds; ground oats, 100 pounds; corn feed meat, 100 pounds; old process oil meal, 400 pounds; gluten feed, 100 pounds; wheat bran, 300 pounds; browers' dried grains, 300 pounds; mait sprouts, 200 pounds; cottonseed meal, 300 pounds; hominy, 100 pounds.

This plan will ensure a mixed feed with a known formula and standard quality and the rations will be balanced ity experts in this work. The plan is flexible enough to ensure competition and to keep prices down. It makes only one handling necessary between the producer of the by-products and the local distributor. And by the publicity given to the different formulae it will act as an educator in the better feeding of dairy cattle.

In connection with the selling of these dairy feeds, the Dairymen's League is establishing in New York City a central office which will assist in having formulas drawn up and feeds manufactured to these formulas. The feed will be distributed by local purchasing agents, and the maximum price for feed has been placed at \$3 per ton above the wholesale price at the time the purchase is made. Besides this, various discounts will be allowed to members of the Dairymen's League for prompt semoval of feeds and for cash payments.

All feeds sent out will be guaranteed to contain the ingredients set forth in the formula and in the proportions laid down. The manufacturers will send out weekly wholesale price sheets. As all business will be done on a strictly cash basis, it is believed that the average price of feeds will be much lower to the farmers than is now the case, for dealers will not have to charge for carrying over bad debts. The plan promises to cut down the number of distributors and to give the farmer feeds mixed to approved standards at mominal prices.

### Butterfat and Income When Production Doubles, Income Trebles

T is well known that profitable cows must be comparatively large producers, yet few people

realize fully the remarkable rate at which profits advance as production increases, say dairying specialists of the United States Deparment of Agriculture. The following Agures obtained iom the records of 1,668 cows in various cow-testing associations, show how rapidly with increased production of butterfat income advances over cost of feed.

#### Production and Profit.

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