

SOME WEEDS OF SPECIAL INTEREST.

Large numbers of specimens of plants found growing in crops or on summer fallows in the North-west Territories, are every year sent to the Botanist of the Experimental Farms, for identification or for advice as to the best means of eradicating them. Figures have been prepared of some of the kinds most frequently inquired about and they are submitted herewith. These plants are not all among the most aggressive enemies of the farmer, but the numerous demands for information concerning them seem to make it advisable that recognizable figures should be published.



Tower Mustard.

TOWER MUSTARD.

This is a tall slender plant 2 to 4 feet in height, with small yellowish white flowers which are followed by a great many slender pods 3 inches long, borne erect and closely pressed to the stem. The root leaves are hairy, but all the rest of the plant is very smooth and glaucous, that is, covered with a whitish bloom as seen on cabbage leaves. This is not a very troublesome weed. It has been sent in as occurring in summer fallows in Manitoba and in clover fields in the older provinces.

WILD MUSTARD OR CHARLOCK.

This well known pest of Eastern Canada is reported to be spreading fast in the Territories. Farmers will do well to use every effort to destroy every plant of it before it becomes more thoroughly established. This can be done by hand-pulling and the frequent use of the harrow and weeder on grain fields after the grain is above the ground. Closely resembling the Wild Mustard, with its bristly hairy stems, and dark green leaves is the Bird Rape, which has smooth glaucous stems and pods. Both of these plants are troublesome pests in the Prairie Provinces and equally to be dreaded.