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DOMINION OF CANADA.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.

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**PROFITABLE FIELD ROOT VARIETIES FOR ONTARIO AND
ADJACENT PARTS OF QUEBEC**

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IMPORTANCE OF ROOTS TO THE STOCK-FEEDER.

Owing to their succulency and palatability combined with a moderately high food content, field roots, in fairly large quantities, are both acceptable and profitable in the ration for nearly every class of live stock. In Denmark and Sweden, where the dairy and bacon industries have reached a very high state of perfection, field roots constitute a large part of the ration for both cattle and hogs. It is true that in Canada farmers and stock feeders are rapidly realizing the value of Indian corn ensilage as a feed, with the result that Indian corn is being more widely grown each year.

Indian corn ensilage is without doubt a very valuable feed and is usually a little more concentrated than the average field root. Yet, when we consider the fact that ten to twelve pounds of field roots containing one pound of dry matter is equal in feeding value to 8 pounds of ensilage, one pound of Indian corn meal, $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of oats, or, $2\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of mixed clover hay, it is at once apparent that an average crop of field roots is equally profitable, if not more so, than a like crop of Indian corn grown for ensilage, or in fact any other crop grown for stock feed.

THE VARIETY TESTS AT THE EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.

Ever since the establishment of the Dominion Experimental Farms, in 1886, one branch of the work has been the conducting of variety tests with the different varieties of field roots. Owing to the ever changing factors influencing such experiments, the results of these tests, as published from year to year, in the farm reports, have in some instances appeared to be more or less confusing. For instance, a cer-