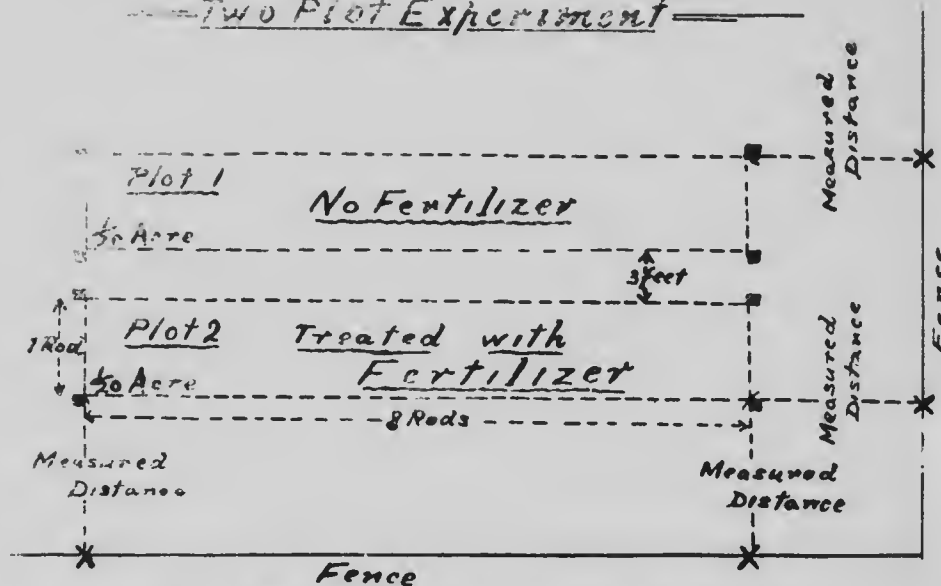


HOW TO EXPERIMENT WITH FERTILIZERS.

The important question in using any fertilizer is "Will it pay?" This can always be answered by a simple "Two Plot Experiment." The details of conducting such an experiment are as follows: Select a uniform area of soil and carefully measure out two plots as illustrated.

Two Plot Experiment

X--- Permanent Stakes placed by Fence

■--- Temporary Stakes placed outside the corners of the plots at the time they are laid down and harvested.

The exact position of the plots in the field should be noted by measured distances from the corners of the plot to permanent stakes by the fence, as shown. Stakes left at the corners of the plot invariably become misplaced through intertillage during the growing seasons and being unnoticed may cause damage to harvesting implements. The plots should be a sufficient distance from the fences of the field so as to be free of the headlands and well away from any trees. Keep the boundaries of the plots at right angles. There should be a dividing strip between each plot, so that the treatment of one plot will not be contaminated with that of another and the results will be entirely separate. The size of the plots may vary according to the convenience of the experimenter, but one-twentieth or one-tenth of an acre is usually most satisfactory for farm crops. If no platform scales large enough to take a waggon or cart is available, the difficulties of dealing with the harvest of large areas are too great. With small areas, greater accuracy is required owing to the multiplication of any errors in calculating quantities per acre. Fertilizer plots with vegetables and market garden produce may be very small. The shape of the plots should be long and narrow rather than square so as to ensure a better uniformity of soil. Where the crop is in drills particular attention should be taken to see that the same number of rows are in each plot.

Regarding the "Two Plot Experiment" under discussion, both plots are prepared in exactly the same manner, receiving an application of farmyard manure