

The same difficulties experienced in curing alfalfa are to be met with in handling Sweet Clover. It carries a large percentage of water which makes it difficult to cure, and in addition the leaves fall off readily after drying. On account of these difficulties it would seem that at present the best use can be made of this crop by pasturing it. It is quite possible, however, that it may be found useful as a silage crop, although at present no data is available concerning its value for this purpose.

The seed resembles alfalfa so closely that if once mixed the two kinds cannot be satisfactorily separated. For this reason the use of Sweet Clover in possible alfalfa seed growing centres should not be encouraged until its value has been more positively determined.

In waste places where the land is not plowed every year Sweet Clover is sure to persist. It is our opinion that *Melilotus Alba*, the crop under discussion, will not become a weed on land that is plowed every year. The fact that it is a biennial, which does not seed the year it is sown, is sufficient guarantee that if prevented from seeding it cannot become a weed on land that is plowed every year. Under these conditions it cannot reproduce itself.

In this connection it should be pointed out that the yellow flowered Sweet Clover (*Melilotus Officinalis*) is much more likely to become a weed than the white flowered species (*Melilotus Alba*). The former should not be used for any purpose.

GOOD QUALITIES.

Among the redeeming qualities of Sweet Clover are, first, its suitability to the climate; second, its high productiveness; third, its biennial character; fourth, it is a "legume," and fifth, it may be grown as an intertilled crop.

Sweet Clover grows nearly a month before corn is up and generally remains green for a month after corn freezes in the fall. It is seldom seriously injured by spring or fall frosts. It is a crop peculiarly suited to the short growing season and the severe temperature conditions of Western Canada. At Saskatoon Sweet Clover, when sown in rows, has yielded more than any other forage crop, and rather more than corn during each of the last two seasons. It is rich in nitrogenous compounds, but unless cut in the early stages of growth, is neither as palatable nor as digestible as most of our other crops.

The biennial character of Sweet Clover is much in its favor. The chief fault of all perennial crops, including alfalfa, Western Rye grass, Brome grass and Timothy, in a dry climate, is that they give no favorable opportunity for storing a surplus of moisture after the year they are sown. As a result no perennial yields large annual returns under dry conditions after the first crop.

It has been observed also that Sweet Clover land is much more easily plowed than alfalfa land, for the reason that after the second season, the Sweet Clover roots are dead and partially decayed and do not therefore increase the draft in plowing. It is common knowledge that alfalfa fields are plowed only with great difficulty.

Sweet Clover is a nitrogen gatherer. In this respect it is not different from the commonly grown clovers and alfalfa. It is an