

the proper time for cradling grain is when it has got out of the milky state, and begins to harden, and the stems turned yellow. If either grass or grain is allowed to become dead ripe before cutting, the sugar of the former, and the starch of the latter are converted into woody fibre—the bran is increased—and the flour diminished. In practice this truth is too commonly overlooked.

(To be Continued.)

As was advised in our last number, the present issue comprises only the monthly sheet of the Journal. This is done in order to overtake the proper time of publication. The next, the September No., will be got out as quickly as possible, and will appear as heretofore, a sheet of the Journal and one of the Transactions, under cover.

THE CROPS OF 1858.

To the Editor of the *Agriculturist*.

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE AND STATISTICS,
September 3rd, 1858.

Sir,—A number of circulars having been issued by this Department for the purpose of gleaning information about the probable yield of crops of 1858, and the diseases affecting them, it is desirable at this season of the year to let the farmers know the result of some of these inquiries, in order to guide them in the sowing of Fall wheat, and enable them to judge of the propriety of leaving part of the land for Spring wheat. Thirty-five returns from twenty-six counties have been received and analyzed. In eighteen of these counties the wheat midge and rust have been very prevalent, and the crop seriously injured—namely, in Waterloo, Oxford, Grey, Norfolk, Durham, South Simcoe, York, Kent, Welland, Victoria, Perth, Essex, Wentworth, Elgin and Ontario, in Canada West, and Vercheres, Brome and Dorchester in Canada East. In three the rust and mildew, without the midge, were very destructive—namely, Waterloo, Peel, and Pontiac. The wheat crops in Stormont, Carleton, Grenville, Lanark, and Russell, in Canada West, and Huntingdon in Canada East, are said to be free from disease of any kind, except a slight rust in Russell.

The average produce of the whole twenty-six counties is $12\frac{1}{2}$ bushels per acre of winter wheat, and $14\frac{3}{4}$ bushels of spring wheat—showing a deficiency of about 40 per cent. in winter wheat, and 10 per cent. in spring wheat. A fact worth noting is, that the spring wheat called Fife or Glasgow wheat, has entirely escaped injury from rust; and also that all spring wheat sown after the 26th of May, has escaped injury from the midge (or wheat fly,) being too late for the fly, which deposits its ova from the 20th June to the middle of July. Wheat thus late sown is not forward enough to receive the deposit. A species of wheat, called the Mediterranean wheat, is also said to be free from the ravages of the midge, but does not appear to be highly approved in other respects. The spring wheat called club-wheat is universally condemned, as being subject to rust.

Never before in the history of Canada, has so much injury been done by rust as this year. Many of these reports show that it arises generally, if not always, from want of proper drainage, and of early sowing of early kinds of wheat on well-shaped ridges, well water-furrowed, which are a great aid in the way of drainage. It may be, that the influence of hot, damp, close, muggy weather after a drought, are less sudden on well-drained, deeply ploughed, well-cultivated land; and these sudden influences are what cause rust, by the greatly increased sap-bursting the straw and flowing downwards, in-