

in the case the elevator company is only legally entitled to take a half of one per cent, to cover invisible loss in handling unless the grain is tough, damp or wet, in which case they are entitled to one per cent. If the grain was stored in a special bin and shipped out for the account of the farmer, then it is quite in order for the elevator company to deduct from the weight of his tickets the dockage placed upon the grain by the Government Inspector. If the dockage is three per cent, as you mention, the terminal elevator company will make a return for two per cent. of the dockage, which will be settled for at the prevailing price for screenings.

If, however, the elevator agent took this grain in and issued graded storage tickets, that is, a storage ticket showing a certain grade and dockage, then the farmer is not at all concerned with the Government dockage that may be placed on the grain. We think in all probability, however, that you have reference to special bin tickets, and that you are simply in error in believing that the one per cent. was for screenings instead of being for invisible loss, which, as we have mentioned above should not be more than one half of one per cent. if the grain is in good condition.

Seed Laboratory at Winnipeg

For the convenience of the farmers and seedsmen of Manitoba and Saskatchewan the seed branch of the Dominion department of agriculture has opened a seed laboratory and seed control station in Winnipeg.

The shortage of seed grain to frost injury and other unfavorable conditions in many localities makes it imperative that every lot of grain that may make seed be tested and sufficient of the best set aside for seeding next spring.

The Winnipeg Laboratory will test grain and other kinds of seed for purity and vitality for seedsmen, grain dealers and farmers who have seed for sale. Twenty-five samples will be tested free for any one firm or individual each year. Tests on samples in excess of this number will be charged for at the rate of 25 cents per test. Accounts are rendered at the end of the seed-testing season.

When a vitality test only is required a small handful of at least 1,000 kernels is sufficient. For a thorough seed test, including examination for weeds seeds and other impurities, a one pound sample is required.

Method of Securing Sample

The information given by the laboratory in regard to the seed content or vitality of any lot of seed can be correct only for the sample received by the laboratory. Whether the information is correct also for the whole lot of grain from which the sample was drawn depends entirely on whether the sample was taken in such a way that it represents the average quality of the entire lot. The results of tests made on samples drawn so as not to represent accurately the seed whose quality is to be determined are not only worthless but misleading.

To secure a representative sample of a lot of grain whose value as seed is to be determined, take small portions from several different parts of the bulk and mix them to make the sample sent for test. If a large lot is made up of grain of several different qualities it is advisable to send samples representing each different quality of grain.

Mail samples in strong paper envelopes or cotton bags. Samples sent loose in ordinary envelopes, cardboard boxes or glass bottles are liable to be lost through being broken open in the mails. A good way of sending several samples is to enclose each in a small cotton bag and pack all the samples tightly into a cardboard box. When several samples are sent under one cover enclose with each a card or piece of paper marked with some letter, number or other designation mark by which the reports on the different samples may be distinguished. When sending samples in separate cotton bags, enclose a slip of paper bearing the sender's name and address in each sample, as tags and papers attached to the outside sometimes become torn or mutilated so that the address of the sender cannot be made out.

Send samples early in season. It re-

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Cleveland Tractor



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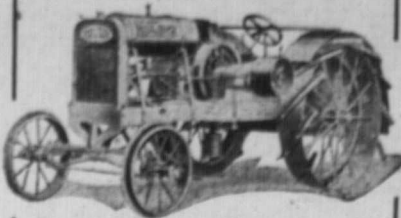
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