

be spread out over the season without producing a serious labor crisis at a certain period such as invariably occurs where most of the land is devoted to one crop. In this connection it is interesting to point out that this labor question actually prevents the growing of an almost complete balanced ration on dairy farms. It is recognized that a full supply of alfalfa hay and corn silage will in itself provide milk not only economically, but in large volume, also that these two crops largely fulfill all the requirements of a crop rotation in respect to soil texture and fertility. But if dairy farms, individually or generally, were devoted only to this rotation the labor of the farm, both man and horse, would be thrown out of balance so badly that all saving in feed and fertility would be lost in acute difficulties of getting crops seeded, cultivated and harvested without undue waste, because the important operations of corn cultivating and harvesting would conflict seriously with alfalfa harvesting; labor, man and horse, could not be got for those conflicting operations and serious wastage of one or both crops would ensue.

Our present labor situation demands that the dairy farm work be largely accomplished by the farm family and limited extra labor, therefore, one of the first considerations of a good cropping system is a spread or variety of crops in which the important operations do not seriously conflict.