

PEAS AND OATS.

A GOOD "LAST CHANCE" CROP FOR ENSILAGE.

Where the land is heavy and corn slow in starting or when the spring is rather cold and corn backward an excellent plan to insure a plentiful supply of good ensilage is to sow a mixture of peas and oats to run through the cut box with the corn in September. This mixture (equal parts by weight of peas and oats), should be sown at the rate of about one hundred and eighty pounds (180 lbs.) to the acre. It should be sown not earlier than the middle of June and had better be in the ground before the first of July. It should be cut in the milk stage. It should be put through the cut box the same day it is mown. It had better be run through at the same time as the corn. If the corn is very green the mixed peas and oats might be allowed to stand a day or so longer. This would increase the dry matter and so lessen the tendency to acidity in the ensilage. Run bundles of corn through the cut box alternately with the sheaves or forkfuls of the peas-and-oats mixture.

VETCHES.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR PEAS.

Vetches might take the place of peas in the above mixture or they might replace part of the peas. They make an excellent ensilage but the seed is usually more expensive than peas and the crop is scarcely more valuable as a feed.

SORGHUM.

ANOTHER LATE-SEEDING, EARLY-CUTTING CROP.

Sorghum matures rather more rapidly than corn and if put in at about the same time or slightly later may be expected to yield a good tonnage of palatable ensilage. It may be mixed with the corn at cutting time. It does best on dry, warm soil. It needs a light dressing of barnyard manure. It should be sown in rows about three feet apart. It requires from 15 to 20 pounds of seed to the acre. It needs to be cultivated. Cut at same time as the corn.

It may be made into hay if not needed for the silo.