

From Supplement of Farmer's Advocate, Aug. 24.

FALL WHEAT SEED TEST.

The land on which we have tested the following grain, has been good, strong clay land. The field contains ten acres well cultivated summer fallow. The largest portion is

TREDWELL which wheat this season appears to answer the best. It stands the winter well—the straw is stiff and stands well for the reaper, except a very few spots. The grain is good, well filled, and of a dull white color, the heads are long but half bald and half bearded. They both ripen and grow alike, and the grains can not be detected. We mentioned this peculiarity when first we introduced this wheat. There is a dispute regarding its being impossible to separate it. Two parties inform us they have the varieties now distinct—other parties have selected the heads and sown separately, and they inform us that the bald has produced some bearded heads and the bearded has produced bald heads. This peculiarity was mentioned to us of its inseparability, and we did not test that question, but were quite satisfied about the superiority of the grain. We leave this point for further remarks, perhaps some other farmer will solve this question. We believe this wheat on good clay land has given better general satisfaction than any other that is procurable in any quantity. This wheat is about eight days later in ripening than the American Amber. It is slightly attacked in some instances by the midge, but even by losing a few grains by the midge, the length of the head and number of kernels, the superiority of color and the standing quality of the straw make it sought after much more than any other variety that is generally known.

Many condemned us for our laudatory remarks of it, and called it a humbug and a swindle when we disseminated it by small packages or at \$3 per bushel. This season, many regret they had not procured it, as it has stood the winter well, is strong in the straw, of superior quality to the Mediterranean or Midge Proof, yielding a large crop and will sell at a higher price, besides costing from \$1 to \$2 less per acre to harvest. Our fields on which it is grown have never had a wild oat or Canada thistle in them. Perhaps the weather may have dimmed the color slightly, but we can safely recommend this as seed, and can supply the crop from twenty acres. We can command much more from others to whom we have supplied the seed, but will not vouch for the purity of other person's raising if we have not seen it. In procuring seed it is of great importance to be sure and not introduce Canada thistles or wild oats.

MEDITERRANEAN WHEATS.—We have four distinct varieties of this wheat; they are all bearded, the principal difference being in the color of the chaff and straw. This is an old and well tried variety, and is to be found on the farms of those farmers that are behind the times, and never take up any new thing unless it has been well tested by their more enterprising neighbors. It has large coarse grain, although it is now much improved. It yields a tolerably good crop, and perhaps for inferior farming and on low, wet land it may answer better than finer varieties. Until superior wheats were introduced, it answered a good purpose and should not yet be totally dis-

carded. It is rather apt to crinkle and lodge more than some varieties.

THE AMERICAN AMBER WHEAT or what is generally known as the midge proof, is yielding well. It is not entirely midge proof; we know of no wheat that is. We have seen midge in it but have never seen a crop of it much injured by the midge. Most persons in our vicinity having good, well cultivated clay lands, are rather dissatisfied with it, because it has been so badly lodged, preventing the full maturity of the berry and causing a very great additional expense in harvesting. Tredwell in the same field, sown at the same time, was all taken off with the reaping machine, but the machine had to be abandoned in taking off the midge proof. Many pieces we know of have been cut with the scythe, the cradles, even, having been abandoned; still on light, sandy soils, there is not such reason to dread the lodging, and on such lands we think it may often be preferred to the Tredwell. We believe there will be a larger breadth of American Amber and Tredwell wheats sown than of any other kinds. Tredwell is most suitable for clay soils, and American Amber for sandy soils.

DEIHL'S WHEAT, known in many sections under the name of White Midge Proof, is short in the head and closely set; it is round, short and plump in the grain. The straw is moderately stiff, and with us it has done well this year, much better than last. We deem it rather more liable to the attacks of the midge, than the fore named wheats. There are many that prefer it. This wheat requires early or quick growing land, and if it matures early it will yield a large crop of fine wheat; on late, cold lands it is apt to rust and to suffer much from attacks of the midge. This wheat deserves a trial in each section. In some sections it is now preferred to the Tredwell. We have, at a very great expense, proceeded with our testing, importing, and disseminating of grain. The results of this year's harvest have crowned us with success.

WEEKS' WHEAT is bearded; appears much like the Mediterranean, but stands well in the ground. The grain is white, plump, and large. This wheat deserves extended trial. If anyone in Canada has any to spare, please inform us at once.

CALIFORNIA WHEAT is very long in the head, bald, much of it winter killed; badly attacked by midge, rust, and condemned.

BOUTON WHITE short in the head; short, plump, white grain. Straw stands well. Eight days earlier than any other variety tested. Deserves further trial.

SADONICA.—Good mottled grain, very fine and stiff in straw. Stands well, rather long in head, and bald. Deserves further trial.

LANCASTER RED GRAIN.—Dark in color, stands winter well. Might be tried again.

SAKONKA.—Badly winter killed. Grain most inferior. Condemned.

BERDENSCA from Russia.

AMBER WHEAT, bald, long in head. Good grain. Deserves further trial.

SALA RED from Saxony, has long, bald head, but very downy grain. Inferior. Condemned.

BOHEMEAN BALD WHEAT badly rusted.—Condemned.

AUSTRALIAN winter killed.—Condemned.

Four kinds of English White Wheat, the finest samples sown, winter killed. Two kinds of Red Wheat, very fine samples, both winter killed.

The Kentucky Midge Proof—Moderate, but open head. Good grain. Deserves further trial, although it has not stood the weather as well as some other varieties.

The wheats for this fall's sowing will be the Tredwell, Deihls, the American Amber, and the Mediterranean.

Each of these kinds are answering well. Some of them are preferred in some sections, and condemned in others, and neither should be totally depended on as being the most suitable, as the seasons and localities, and attacks of the midge, vary very much. We commend the trial of new kinds only in small quantities. Should any new kind answer well, it will soon increase, and the cost or loss cannot be much; and if you are careful in procuring a small quantity, you can easily take away any impure seed or weed, which cannot be done so easily in a large field; and the small quantities disseminated by us, will be the purest and most carefully selected. It is much to be regretted that we are unable to find in Canada or the States, as clean and pure varieties as we should have, nor are our own as good as we wish to have them. We can but supply the best we have, and when we can find any better, we disseminate it. We have spared neither time or money to endeavor to procure the best.

See next issue for Spring grain.

P. S. Since writing the above we may add threshing has been done, and the Tredwell has not yielded in this vicinity quite as well as anticipated, but in many Counties it stands the best. The Deihl has yielded largely in this vicinity.

AGRICULTURAL ITEMS.

The only thing to increase the length of a colt's mane is to keep the roots perfectly clean, and frequently comb and plait it.

A correspondent of the countryman says, giving a sow a slice of salt pork each day for eight or ten days before farrowing will prevent danger from her eating her pigs.

Mr. Joseph Harris expresses the opinion that indigestion is the source of nearly all ordinary complaints in horses, and that this is brought on by irregular feeding and watering; by exposure, fatigue, by long journeys without food, in a storm, and then by over-feeding and neglecting to rub them dry before leaving them for the night.

Information from the principal grain districts of California indicates that the wheat crop, though large, is below the average yield per acre. A considerable portion of it, either through thinness or rust, will not pay to harvest. In Oregon the crop is greatly in excess of any previous year, except in the Walla-Walla region.

To make a rat and mouse-proof house Mr. J. M. Hartwell, of Colebrook, N. H., tells the New York Farmers' Club to take some mortar and bricks, and after the frame of the house is up and boarded and the partitions set, lay one or two thicknesses of brick between every stud, both on the lower and upper floors. Then lath and plaster to the floors, and put on a narrow mop or washboard, not so high as to have the upper edge come above the brick. As the rats and mice gnaw in, just over or under the washboards, bricks thus laid will make the house rat and mouse-proof, at an expense of \$5.