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## ALFALPA INVESTIGATIONB

Supt. L. R. Waldroa of the Diekinson, North Dakots, sub-station, and Chas. J. Brand, physiologist, Bureau of Plant
 joint authors of Bulletia No. 185, U.S
Dept. of Agriculture. The subjeet is "Alfalfa." Supt. Waldron has carried on the largest trials with alfaifs in the United States. The bulletin takes up the different phases of alfalfa growing The subject of varieties and winter kill ig are given special attention
Prof Waldron discovery that if made the importan isade early enougt on there was was siderable growth when froot eame, the plants, as a rule, went through the wia er safely. He accounts for it in that the late growth would pump water out of the soil and thus cause the alfaifa to harden up for wizter. His aiso found that a thin stand will kill quieker than a good one. It was found that inocula there would be failore, me mather hom good the preparation of the soil The proper prejaration of the soil be clanses as of primary impertanee, and that thor ough preparation also promotes inoeu ation Another peint made is that it is important to get seed from regions that produce bardy seed. It has also been found is these experiments, how ever, that the plants become acelimated is the course of two or three gevers tions and eapecially so where the alfaif - grown under irrigation.

It was alse found that the Mongolian alfalfa, which proved to be the bardiest at Diekisson as well as at Btocktos, Kansas, had erowns set more deeply in the soil than other varieties. If is to of the Grimen alfalfs mere brokes off four to eight inchm below the surfore that they sent out new roots instend of dyiag as would most other varieties, which may be ane reason why the Grimm alfolfa strais has sueb long en durasee. Dry winters which have been suppesed to be bigbly injurious bave been found to be so only when preeeded by a wet fall, and that a dry fall furaishem the moet favorable conditions for wistering over by producing more per feet dormaney. A coat of ice or sleet oftes briags about winterkilling, as does also late pasturing with cattle, sheep or hoge. This bulletis is of spe eial importasce to the Northwest as it gives valuable data that will make it jomible to grow alfalfa where failure
has been met wits before.

Why plowt It loosens up the soil, expesing more of it to be sected os by ous, sir and froes. Busbble sed weet humus. The water-holding eaparity of the soil is iseressed, and raisfall ean get isto plowed ground easier and faster. Oe deep plowiog o beavier nisis. fall eas get in witheut ras-en than en thallow plowisg.
Do sot take a wider furrow thas the flow will eut. Thorospt plowing pays It is also a good practice to dise right sfter harvent; thls puts the ground ti better shape for plowisy - W. C Palmer, N. D. Agrieultaral College

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