

Ontario Department of Agriculture

CIRCULAR No. 10
Toronto, April, 1918

VARIETIES OF FARM CROPS

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For the highest returns in crop production it is essential to have 1, good seed; 2, thorough cultivation; 3, fertile soil; 4, well drained land, and 5, proper rotation of crops.

Good seed means not only large, plump, sound, well matured seed of strong vitality and free from impurities, but also the *very best varieties* obtainable.

In order to know the best kinds, about 2,500 varieties of farm crops have been grown under test at the Ontario Agricultural College within the past twenty-five years. Practically all varieties have been grown for five years in succession, after which the poorer kinds have been dropped, the better sorts have been continued, and new and promising kinds have been added to the test from time to time. Those varieties which have given the highest returns in the tests at the College have proven valuable, not only in themselves, but also as foundation stock from which to secure improved strains by selection or new varieties by hybridization.

A few of the leading varieties obtained by introduction, by selection and by hybridization have been tested on thousands of farms throughout Ontario in the co-operative experiments conducted through the medium of the Experimental Union.

As the result of these lines of activity the following varieties have proven to be of special value for the farms of Ontario:

OATS.

O. A. C. No. 72. Late, vigorous grower, good straw, spreading head, white grain, comparatively thin hull, high yielder of grain.

Banner. Late, good straw, spreading head, white grain, medium hull, medium yielder.

O. A. C. No. 3. Very early, good straw, spreading head, white grain, exceptionally thin in the hull, good yielder.

BARLEY.

O. A. C. No. 21. Early, stiff straw, six-rowed head, grain bluish under the hull, good quality, heavy yielder.

SPRING WHEAT.

Marquis. Early, good straw, beardless head, white chaff, red grain, excellent quality for bread production, good yielder.

Wild Goose. Fairly early, tall straw of medium strength, compact bearded head, hard grain, particularly suitable for the manufacture of macaroni, high yielder.