

speediest, within two inches of top with grain, then dip into barrel of solution, fill full of solution and let minute and empty. can pickle as much ry machine pickler, boy to fill the pails, wing with one drill ntities in proportion, ow bottomed pail is ches at top of pail oughly soak every ill come up through ch makes it all the

WHEAT HEAD.

ER'S METHODS
ts you ask me to tell of land I have, how etc. So far I have red land, being care- possible; also to have er harrows following e the teeth tilted, so n the newly plowed s the soil, and, I ant evaporation. I the time of plowing get on to my land the teeth of harrow r and leaving good ed a medium loam, ight in color, having at colored clay sub- obtained from plant-

inning and grading, d and plump seed. hyde to bluestone. e in a large barrel ying oats one sack sure to cover thor- id letting it remain re the solution has el. When treating et been troubled d used, I have ob- g of five pecks per benefit to my crop e growing crop has e to four inches. may have started face of the ground e. In my opinion per condition, sub- harrow, if no sub- election and treat- of seed per acre ul raising of good

A. R. BENNETT.

ND PLENTY OF

consider the three growing of oats

ked; second, pure, third, a plentiful ese three, it is st of such grains n view. We now ovide these neces-

a new soil to work ficulty in supply- epared to expend t. But with the e or less infested er, and the work n that with in- such difficulties, off more than he

difficult problem ainable through- ined from several tra item in the ce of a few cents repaid by the re- nity to grow his ard through the vers Association. t it pays. And ion, nor time to est seed breeders ouse, within the d seed will give ain its standard d heavy screen- the best seed is

ty of moisture," ether out of our e. It certainly the same time hereby the mois- ed up for the year een the subject

of many interesting lectures and letters, by men who really know what they are talking about. But any common farmer, such as myself, can verify the truth of the matter, as laid down by our leading professors of agriculture, by following their methods. To my mind, the most important feature of this plan, and the first step towards its success, is the harrowing down to a fairly fine surface, your fallows immediately after, or within a few hours after, the day's plowing has been done. Briefly, follow up the plow, and do not leave your furrows to bake into brickbats, which no manner of amount of cultivation will bring it into the same shape as it would have been had you used the drag when the land was fresh from the mouldboard.

I might say my land is a medium clay loam. I treat my seed with formaldehyde by dipping in the solution for several minutes. I sow at the rate of from three to five bushels per acre, using Abundance, which is a very large, plump variety of oats, and consequently has to be sown more thickly to get the same equivalent of a seeding of ordinary oats, besides this is a non-stooling variety.

Now, Mr. Editor, I think I am beginning to encroach on your space. I do not wish to be set up as an authority on farming; in fact, I am far from it, and have lots to learn yet. Before closing, I do not think it will be out of the points in question to refer back to the great seed breeders of Winnipeg, Messrs. Garton. I might say that my successes so far, as far as the seed question is concerned, is due to them. I have had considerable experience with their seeds, both oats and barley on a small scale, and in all cases, trials and otherwise, I have had great success, and I have no hesitation in saying that anyone procuring seeds from Garton's house will get good results and the best of satisfaction.

Sask.

ONE OF THE WINNERS.

BARLEY GROWING IN SASKATCHEWAN

The conditions under which I raised the barley which I exhibited at the Regina Seed Fair, and for which I was awarded second prize as follows:

I summer fallowed the land in 1906 and took a crop of wheat off it in 1907, spring. Plowed it in 1908 (as soon as I was through seeding my wheat), rolled it as soon as plowed, and gave it one stroke with the drag harrow. I then seeded at the rate of two and one-half bushels per acre with a shoe drill. Then harrowed twice. I have not had much experience with barley growing, but my experience has been, that the sooner it is in the ground after May 1st the better, as it will stand much more frost than oats. I seeded mine last year about May the 10th and cut it about 15th of August, and it was very ripe. And I got it stacked by 23rd of same month. I have tried to get my barley stacked before my wheat was ready to cut for a number of years, but never succeeded until last year, which to a great extent accounts for the good quality of the grain. I generally cut it too green, and had to let it stand too long in the stook. The variety which I find most satisfactory in this locality is the Duck Bill, Two-Bowed. Have tried Mensury and a few other Six-Bowed varieties, and although they are a little earlier they do not yield nearly so well. I use formaldehyde for the prevention of smut and find it satisfactory.

Sask.

J. H. BROWN.

ROTATION SYSTEM FOR A GRAIN FARM

The question has risen as to whether wheat farming is the real thing, or whether we shall go more into oats, barley and peas. Wheat is the whole thing in some parts, but if you grow wheat for a few years on the same soil, it becomes exhausted and grows light, poor crops. But change the crops and you will have almost as good as new land. Say summer fallow a piece of land one year, and sow wheat on it the first year, then burn the stubble off the next spring, and if the land is in good shape, sow oats, then the third year spring plow the same piece of land and this time sow it to barley, and you will have a good crop of all. The next year after the barley crop, it will grow a pretty good crop of wheat, then summer fallow again.

The land the barley was grown on that I won the prize with, was the third crop from summer fallow, spring plowed, harrowed twice before sowing and once after. This land was heavy black loam lying rather low. The barley was sown after the wheat and oats, and came in about a week ahead of them. In this way one can get his grain out before it is all ripe at once. This seed was treated with formaldehyde before sowing, and sown at a rate of two bushels per acre.

Now the best way to get good grain crops is the same as good stock returns, and that is to breed the best to the best. The same with grain, sow the very best that you have, and if you have not got very good grain, fan and screen only the best until you have got all the poor from the good. If you sow large seed you will have a large sample next fall, and then grade it up still and you will never need to get a change of seed.

This barley that we sowed last spring was fanned twice, and I screened it down from one to one-half and left a fine sample. Then this spring we are going to screen down at the same rate as last season. Bear in mind that what you screen out of your barley will fatten the hogs and cattle just as well as what you are going to sow.

Southern Sask.

W. C. CAMERON.

ADVISES SPECIAL SEED PLOT

The first and most important thing in connection with growing a crop of any kind, I consider is good pure seed. I purchased a quantity of the best Mensury barley I could get, and treated it with formaldehyde, sixteen ounces to forty gallons of water. I covered the seed with this solution for from three to five minutes, then put it in a heap or in a light wagon box and cover with horse blankets. I dip my bags in the same solution for about five minutes and sow the next day. I think it is better to sow just as soon as the grain will work well in the drill, as it is already swelled and will germinate quicker, than if it is allowed to get dry again. I sow ten pecks per acre after it is treated and harrow after the drill. My land is a black sandy loam with clay subsoil and was fallowed in 1907. We can grow good barley after wheat or oats by plowing in the spring and keeping the harrows close up to the plow and then follow close with the drill before the land has time to dry out, but there is one objection to this method and that is the volunteer grain, growing amongst the crop, and spoiling it for seed the next year. I would advise every farmer to sow a plot expressly for seed, whether wheat, oats or barley, on clean well prepared fallow, or root land, or after grass sod, and let it thoroughly mature before harvesting, then take particular care with the threshing and store it where it cannot get mixed with other varieties or other kinds of grain.

Sask.

F. J. DASH.

was stook threshed. I am not sure of this, but am making enquiries, but I do know this, that one lot of barley that was stacked, and that I saw threshed threshed as easily as mine, and was not injured.

The soil is a medium dark loam, with light colored, almost white, clay subsoil with some very fine sand in it.

The seed was carefully fanned, and treated with formaldehyde. It was sown at the rate of two bushels to the acre.

I purchased this farm in August, 1906, and was told that I could break in the same fall and crop the following year. In all I broke nearly 300 acres. The land that was planted to barley last year was broken in November. It was broken a full three inches deep but the land was dry, and a good deal of the sod was kinked. I had not time to get it disced that fall. It was twice double-disced the following spring, harrowed and planted to flax. The soil was in poor condition; moisture had been lost, and the flax was not sown till the 10th of June through delay caused by the first seed purchased being unfit to plant. I lost the crop through frost. There was a good stand due to the plentiful rains but it made good hay for horses.

This land was ploughed again in the fall of 1907, and disced once after the ploughing was completed. It was dry when disced and merely cut into pieces without pulverizing. It should have been disced and harrowed day by day, as it was ploughed, to conserve the moisture.

The following spring the land was harrowed and a



HOME OF W. E. COOK, MAYMONT DISTRICT, SASKATCHEWAN.
Mr. Cook won first prize in the Field Grain Competition in the district, 1908

BELIEVES IN USEFULNESS OF THE HARROW

Believing that the Abundance was a good milling oat, I ordered one hundred bushels last spring at eighty-five cents per bushel which I considered good buying for the quality of grain received. I sowed the above mentioned amount on thirty acres, which seemed to be quite thick enough. The land was broken about five inches deep, turning it over as flat as possible, breaking was done the latter part of June and the fore part of July.

In regard to discing, we disc twice with a weighted disc, and four horses. First time we disc with the plowing, and the second time on an angle, not giving too much throw so as not to turn the sods. The discing was all done in the fall and left until spring, then we harrowed well with drag harrows before seeding and after. I think the harrow is one of the most important implements a farmer can use; it makes the seed bed, is a great weed destroyer if used in the proper time, and it also helps to pack the land.

In regard to the soil these oats grew on, it is a good black loam with good clay subsoil. We have been somewhat held back in this district the last two years, on wheat growing, on account of frost, but I do think in the near future as the country grows older, we will have one of the best wheat growing districts in the great West.

Sask.

J. H. FINDLATER.

GOOD SEED THE FIRST ESSENTIAL

I will endeavor to describe the manner in which the barley was grown that won first prize at the Gleichen Seed Fair, and third at the Calgary Provincial Seed Fair.

I am satisfied that you will come to the same conclusion after reading what follows that I have, viz., that the good quality of the barley exhibited was due to the care I took in purchasing good sound heavy barley for seed, and fanning it before planting, to get rid of weed seeds that were in it. The cultivation was faulty. Fairly favorable weather during the time the barley was in stook helped in curing, so that the grain was a bright color. I think stacking the barley so as to put it through its sweat before threshing, aided the threshing. Much of the barley in this district was badly injured in the threshing, and it has occurred to me that all this barley, as far as I know,

leveller put over it, which helped to break it down somewhat, but it was dry, worked badly and there was little moisture. The barley was sown with a drill towards the end of April. The stand was light, as there was little stooking, owing to deficiency of moisture, except in one spot. In this place there had been a haystack at some time previous for there was a good deal of decayed vegetation. There was a heavy stand of flax and plenty of moisture when the barley was planted, resulting in a heavy stand of dark green straw which lodged badly. The rest of the straw of the barley crop never had a good color, stooled little, and was light. The yield also was light for this part, only 20 bushels to the acre. But the straw stood well, so that the binder made good work, and the grain did not come in contact with the ground, and get discolored.

I would emphasize these points as of most importance in barley growing: First, and again first, the purchase of good sound and plump seed. Next, a medium, not heavy, soil, and its cultivation in such a way as to conserve an amount of moisture that will not produce too rank a growth of straw, but, in this, one may have one's calculations upset, by a rainy season. Attention to keeping the stooks standing, so that the barley does not become discolored by contact with the ground, and I think that stacking is also advisable.

Alberta

A. D. SHORE.

* * *

The first step necessary to secure a profitable crop of oats is to get the ground in proper condition for seeding. It should be plowed when there is sufficient moisture in the soil so that it will crumble well. Some farmers advocate fall plowing, others spring; but I believe that the time of the year for plowing old ground is not nearly so important as the condition of the soil at the time the work is done. If ground is plowed too dry, or too wet, it is almost impossible to work it into that ideal physical condition in which the moisture from below will rise from the sub-soil into the lower part of the seed-bed, while the soil mulch on top prevents undue evaporation.

Alta.

W. H. PAWSON, JR.

[Continued on page 561]