

VALUE OF RYE AS A GREEN CROP—IMPORTANCE OF CULTIVATING IT EXTENSIVELY. The real value of rye, either as a white or green crop, is far better understood than it was a few years ago. Its remunerative properties as a grain crop, are not inferior to its usefulness as a green one, but it is to the latter that we would direct the farmer's attention at present. Rye is much better suited to swamp land than wheat, and a portion of peat ashes has been found an excellent manure for it. Every farmer should cultivate rye, as it is a more certain crop than wheat, and with the exception of the latter is of all other cereals the best adapted for supplying the "staff of life." When cultivated as a green crop, it has many excellent properties to recommend it to the farmer's favor. It comes in early, when grass is scarce. It will grow in almost any kind of soil, and it is so hardy that it is able to stand the winters of this climate. It also yields a very large amount of forage, and there is one quality which it possesses, which renders it more desirable than any other forage, especially to those who have milch cows; that is, it causes animals fed on it to give a greater quantity of milk than any other sort of food. We lately advised farmers to introduce vetches as a forage crop, and we have no doubt but they will succeed well in this state. European farmers generally sow rye in August and September, when they have cut away the vetches; they do not sow the entire crop at the same time, but prefer allowing a fortnight or more to intervene between the sowings, and by this means they have a succession, the earliest sown part being the soonest fit for use in the spring. Breeders of sheep have found a field of rye extremely valuable for recruiting the strength of their flock after a severe winter, and whether the crop is used as a pasture for sheep, or cut green as soiling for horses and cattle, it is a valuable addition to the forage and should be cultivated by every farmer.

These remarks are intended not to discourage the farmer from raising rye as a grain crop, but merely to show its utility for the feeding of stock. The white rye which we have noticed in another column, is said to produce flour very little inferior to wheat. We advise farmers to procure seed of this new and improved variety, as it produces well and ripens early. There is nothing of more importance than the selection of the best seed of every kind, and we are glad to see an increased anxiety on the part of farmers to sow none but the most approved varieties of grain.—*Detroit Tribune*.

WINTER BARLEY.—The *Haldimand Tribune* publishes the following letter in reference to this grain:—

TO DUNCAN MCFARLAND, }
PORT ROBINSON. }

NIAGARA, August 5, 1859.

SIR,—In reply to your friend's enquiries respecting Winter Barley:—In the first place, let him be particular in obtaining the real Winter Barley. Some of my neighbours have been imposed upon by persons selling them Spring for Winter Barley, saying, "it is all the same—here is Spring and Winter Barley, the same as Spring and Winter Wheat." As for soil, my opinion, formed on what experience I have had for two years, is, that any soil that will produce good wheat will answer. The principal art is in good cultivation. Sow as early in September as possible, that it may obtain a strong root. Summer fallow is preferable, or on dry mellow land. As to the quantity of seed, farmers differ; from one and a half to three bushels per acre.—My yield has been on fallow, sixty, and on corn land forty bushels per acre. The corn land was equally as good as the fallow. What made the difference in the yield, in my opinion is, that the latter was sown on the 1st, and the former on the 20th of September. I believe, under any circumstances, it will yield double the quantity of Spring Barley. It is ripe the 1st of July before the midge strikes it. We sell it here for one dollar per bushel; but if there would be one hundred bushels wanted at your place, or at an equal distance, I will deliver it at the same price, in time for sowing, and warrant it the real Winter Barley.

Yours, respectfully,

JOHN MCCARTHY.

PROLIFIC YIELD.—We are informed that two bushels of the Kentucky (blue stem) wheat, sown on the farm of Mr. John Wallace, produced no less a quantity than forty-five bushels. The two bushels were sown and kept entirely separate from other wheat in order that its producing qualities might be properly tested,—certainly it has stood the test well.—*Ayr Observer*.