



"Agriculture not only gives Riches to a Nation, but the only Riches she can call her own."

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Management of Land for the Winter Wheat Crop

EVERY cultivator of the soil should bear in mind, that a system of cultivation and farm management that would be adapted to a certain description of soils, might possibly prove the worst possible system on soils of a different quality; therefore, in giving directions relating to any branch of agricultural operations, it must not be supposed that will apply in all cases with equal force. Consequently, a writer on agriculture, to make himself distinctly understood and useful, must either confine his directions and observations under distinct heads, or else deal in vague technicalities and generalities, which, to say the least of such a style, is only calculated to disgust a zealous enquirer after agricultural knowledge. In treating upon so important a subject as the one we have chosen for our present leader, we are at a loss to know what course to pursue. If we were to devote that time and space to it as its importance justly merits, we should be under the necessity of appropriating nearly the entire number to the discussion and elucidation of this one subject alone. As such a course would doubtless prove unpopular to such of our readers as have no interest in

the cultivation of winter wheat, we shall be obliged to be brief, and as practical in our remarks as possible.

In those portions of the province where the winter wheat crops have sustained much damage from the ravages of the Hessian fly, it would be well to delay sowing until as late a period as the first week of October. When wheat is sown as late as the period mentioned, it is liable to receive more or less damage from the operations of winter frost. To obviate this evil in some measure, a short period before the winter sets in, all the half-rotted barn-yard manure that can be collected, should be scattered broadcast over the young wheat plants; and by this means, the action of the frosts will not be felt so severely by the crop. Late sowing is only advisable in such cases where the Hessian fly abounds in great numbers,—and it is a system that we should object to under almost any other circumstances.

The propriety of making naked summer-fallows is daily becoming more questionable among the most experienced and scientific farmers, and very many of the most thriving cultivators in Canada have resolved upon managing their lands upon such sound principles of economy, that a large and profita-