

EXPERIMENTAL FARM NOTES.

THE GERMINATING POWER
OF
GRAIN GROWN IN CANADA
DURING THE SEASON OF 1893.

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The question as to the vitality and germinating power of seed grain is a most important one for farmers, and associated with this is that of the relative vigour of the young plants after the seeds have started. These qualities in the seed will necessarily have a large influence on the crop of the coming year.

The testing of the germinating power and vigour of samples of grain grown in the several provinces of the Dominion during 1893 began on the 9th of December, 1893, and since that date 1,153 samples have been placed under test. The testing is conducted in duplicate ; in one case the grain is planted in the soil, in the other in a suitable apparatus between folds of linen kept constantly moist. With 686 samples the tests are now completed, and while thus far the average vitality stands higher than in the crop of 1892, which is very gratifying, there is, nevertheless, a serious drawback in connection with the samples of barley which have been received from Manitoba, the North-west Territories, New Brunswick and Quebec in the unusually large proportion of plants of weak growth. The percentage is small in the samples from Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Ontario and British Columbia.

The following table shows the number of tests thus far completed in each of the provinces of the Dominion with wheat,

1.883
2819.