

the fibre to be manufactured into articles for domestic use. If the land be rich and strong, the flax crop will prepare the ground as well for wheat as a naked summer fallow.

Prepare for sowing crop, and one which might take the place of a naked fallow with great advantage to the farmer.—Tares require to be sown thick, about two bushels per acre is not found too much seed. The quantity of tares or vetches mixed with one quart of rape seed, and sown upon an acre of well prepared ground, will yield an abundant crop, which might be fed off with sheep or lambs in time to plough once for wheat. Ten acres of land thus sown with vetches and rape would abundantly fatten fifty wethers from the first of July to the first of September, and the stock would yield an ample supply of manure, and the treading would put the land in a sufficient state of firmness for the reception of the wheat. The average yield per acre is twenty-five bushels, and the present value of seed is 7s. 6d. per bushel. Three bushels of tares are equal to two bushels of peas as food for stock. Rape, when sown alone upon fallows, should be cultivated in drills, about fifteen inches apart, which should be well hoed in the rows but not thinned. The quantity of seed used should be four pounds per acre, which should be sown by the tenth of May; and the sheep may be put upon it in ten weeks from the time it has been sown. The ground may be thoroughly cultivated between the rows with horse hoes, which will as thoroughly clean the ground as if naked summer fallowed.—After being fed off with sheep, it may be sown with wheat, which will produce a heavier crop than any other preparation of land for wheat.

Ploughing when the land is wet converts the soil into a mortar, and does it more injury, especially if clay, then cropping. Deep ploughing on most of the land in this country would be productive of advantages; it would not only lessen the chance of injury from drouth, but would increase the amount and quality of produce upon the land, to an extent that can scarcely be credited by those who have never practiced it. Every farmer should experiment upon deep ploughing, and in this way the merits of the system will be better understood. In proportion as the soil is deepened may fresh barn-yard manure be applied, without entailing the evil of premature growth of the plant.

Plaster may be sown upon the young clover during the latter part of this month. From one to two bushels per acre upon sandy, and four bushels upon strong clay land, is the quantity that is generally used by those who have had the most experience with this manure. By the application of the above quantity, the clover crop may be doubled. It is also a valuable manure for turnips, potatoes, Indian corn, and all other broad-leaved plants.

Ashes for a top dressing is found highly beneficial on strong, cold, and wet soils, or low spongy meadow or pasture ground, and all other land that is rank with vegetation; on strong loams it is an admirable manure. From ten to fifteen of unleached and from fifty to sixty bushels of leached ashes, will be found sufficient to dress an acre. No manure is more efficient upon deep vegetable soils than ashes, and every farmer should make it a point to collect them, to top-dress the wheat, potatoe, and grass lands.

All the short manure upon the farm should be collected together in a compost heap for a top-dressing for the meadow. This matter is too much neglected by the Canadian farmers. Meadow grounds should not only be top-dressed with

vegetable manure from the compost heap and gypsum, but strict regard should be paid in keeping every description of animals off the fields during the spring and summer months. Meadows are often destroyed in this way, without any sensible advantage to the stock.

SPRING OR SUMMER GRAINS.

Among the earliest operations in the field is that of sowing the spring grains—oats, barley, rye and wheat. The most usual course with these crops in this vicinity is to take the ground that has been manured one, two, or more years, and planted to corn or potatoes. This ground is plowed early in the spring, is usually harrowed, and then sowed with about three bushels of seed per acre, if the grain be oats; two bushels if barley, and a little over one bushel, if wheat or rye. No manure is applied to the land at this time. The seed is covered sometimes by the use of the harrow, sometimes by a cultivator, and sometimes by a light horse-plow.—After this the roller or brush harrow is generally used, especially if the land is stocked or seeded down to grass with the grain crop—and this is often done. A common seeding is about twelve quarts of herd's grass or timothy seed, 8lbs of clover, and three or four pecks of red-top per acre. These are the usual quantities of seed used on common farms, where the greater part of the hay is consumed at home; but such farmers as intend to sell much of their hay in our market, sow little or any other seed than timothy, and they do or should put on three or four pecks of this seed per acre.

Grass seed sown with the spring grains, has not done so well in recent years, in this vicinity, as it did in former times. The failures are so frequent that many now will not take the risk, and are probably wise in refusing to do so. Clover, however, though its growth might not be large, will probably pay well for sowing with the grain, even where it is to be plowed in, in August or September with the stubble.

The taking off a grain crop and then ploughing and seeding to grass in the autumn is coming into vogue, and the course has quite as much to recommend it as the old way of sowing to grass in the spring. The chances are greater that the grass will set well; the stubble is worth more when buried by the plow than when left on the surface, and the extra plowing and harrowing put the land in a better state to bear successive crops of hay. This last point is of considerable consequence. Usually the spring work of the soil is performed while the ground is too wet to pulverize well. And when this is the case, the ground will probably be very considerably less productive for the three or four following years, than if plowed again at midsummer and made as light and as fine as possible.

If you are disposed to pursue the old course, we will merely say that as far as our experience and knowledge go, oats are the worst of the grains in their effects upon the after crops of grass; barley, rye and wheat do not differ much in this respect; but we should name them in the above order, considering barley the worst and wheat the best.

We have been looking over some analyses of the ashes of these grains and their straw, which are contained in Johnston's Agricultural Chemistry. And supposing oats to yield forty bushels per acre; barley, thirty, rye twenty and wheat 20, we should find them taking silica, potash, soda and lime from the soil nearly in the following quantities: