

Agriculture and Colonization.

The six varieties which have done the best at

THE CENTRAL FARM,

at Ottawa, during the past year have been, the Rosedale, 64.24 bushels per acre, weighing 38½ pounds per bushel; Banner, 63.18 bushels, weighing 36 pounds; Rennie's Prize White, 63.18 bushels, weighing 41½ pounds; Cave, 63.2 bushels, weighing 35½ pounds; Abyssinia, 61.26 bushels, weighing 39½ pounds, and Golden Beauty, 60.08 bushels, weighing 35½ pounds.

Last year the varieties which stood at the head of the list were Cream Egyptian, White Egyptian, Flying Scotchman, Holstein Prolific, Longfellow and Early Blossom, ranging from 57 to 38 bushels to the acre. The oat crop this year at the Central Farm has been heavier than last year.

OAT PRODUCTION ON THE NAPPAN AND BRANDON FARMS.

At the Experimental Farm at Nappan, N. S., some of the same varieties are prominent in yield, the Holstein Prolific yielded 85 bushels 33 lbs. per acre, the Abundance 85.36 bushels and the American Beauty 85.35 bushels, averaging about 35 pounds to the bushel, at Nappan, the Improved Ligowo oats, a variety brought out from France two years ago, has also given good crops, amounting to 75 bushels to the acre, and weighing 36 pounds to the bushel.

In 1891 the American Beauty, the Rosedale, New Zealand, Archangel, Prize Cluster and Holstein Prolific were the six best at Nappan. The best six varieties at Brandon run from 78 bushels to 87 bushels to the acre, weighing from 34 to 39 pounds per bushel, standing in yield in the following order: White Hungarian, Australian, Banner, Abundance, Golden Side and Archangel.

OAT GROWTH AT INDIAN HEAD AND AGASSIZ.

At Indian Head the oat crop has not been so large, the six best yielders running from 40 to 57 bushels 16 lbs. to the acre and ranging in weight from 37 to 44 lbs. to the bushel. The particulars of the tests of all the varieties named and a great many others will appear in the Annual Report of the Experimental Farms which is now in the printers' hands.

At Agassiz, B. C., the six best varieties of oats have given from 55 bushels 10 lbs. to 72 bushels and 19 lbs. and may be ranged as to yield in the following order: Improved Ligowo, Giant Cluster, Early Gothland, Doncaster Prize, Challenge and White Poland.

By Mr. Hughes:

Q. Is the Banner Oat you have referred to the American Banner?—A. Yes, and of this variety there was a large quantity sent out in connection with the seed distribution. I think it is important to call attention to this particular variety of oats for the reason that it succeeds so well; 2,123 samples of the Banner were distributed last year. Not many were sent to Ontario, for the reason that this variety of oat is common there, but in Quebec and the eastern provinces it is but little known. Some samples were also sent to the North-west Territories and to Manitoba, to points where they were least likely to have been already introduced. Several hundred reports have been received. In Ontario the yield varied from 44 lbs. to 72 lbs. from three pounds of seed with an average weight of 33½ lbs. to the bushel. That is not high, but the Banner oat does not usually run heavy. It is a long oat with a good body to it, but it weighs light in the measured bushel. From Quebec 159 reports were received, the average being 63½ lbs. from three lbs. of seed. From Manitoba, the average yield was 67 lbs.; in British Columbia, 109 lbs. and it is noteworthy that one man in this Pacific province grew 360 lbs. from the three lbs. of seed. Everywhere that oat has shown very good points and I believe that if the Banner Oat was generally grown in place of other varieties at present in common cultivation it would add some bushels to the acre on the average for the whole Dominion. Of course it is impossible to introduce a new variety at once in that general way.