

Soil

Winter Rye is better adapted to poor, worn out soils, than any other cereal, and it, therefore, often sown on the poorest land and produces fair pasture. While this is true, it will respond readily to good soil and cultivation. Moist clay or sandy loam gives the best results.

Preparation of Seed Bed

Since Winter Rye can be used to good advantage in the eradication of wild oats it is usually sown on the most weedy field. Where this is practiced the best method is to work the land as summer-fallow until September and then seed. The summer cultivation puts the soil in ideal condition to produce a good crop. Fair crops may be obtained by sowing on fall plowed stubble land, but the difficulty is to get the crop off in time to sow the rye.

Time and Rate of Seeding

For fall pasture the seed should be sown about the last week in August or the first week in September. About one and a half to two bushels of seed per acre is required. The seed should be sown with the grain drill depositing the seed between two and three inches below the surface of the soil. If sown shallower, there is danger of the stock injuring it to such an extent that it will be likely to winter kill.

Pasturing

The field is usually ready for pasture about the last week in September or the first week in October. If it is to be used as Spring pasture care should be exercised not to graze it too closely in the Fall. If this precaution is taken it can be pastured in the Spring shortly after the frost is out of the first six inches of soil. If it makes good growth while being pastured and the stock are taken off as soon as the perennial pastures are ready, a small crop of grain may be harvested. This will usually be ready to harvest about the last week in July.

RAPE

Among the annual forage crops there is none that will produce a cheaper or better pasture than Rape. It can be sown on land intended for summer-fallow and will produce good pasture and leave the soil in nearly as good condition for wheat as does the bare fallow.

Soil

Rape will grow on almost all kinds of soil. It thrives best, however, on soil that contains a large amount of humus or vegetable matter.

Preparation of Seed Bed

It often happens that a field which has been sown to grass winter kills and has to be broken up. If this is plowed in June about four inches deep and well cultivated with the disc and drag harrow and the