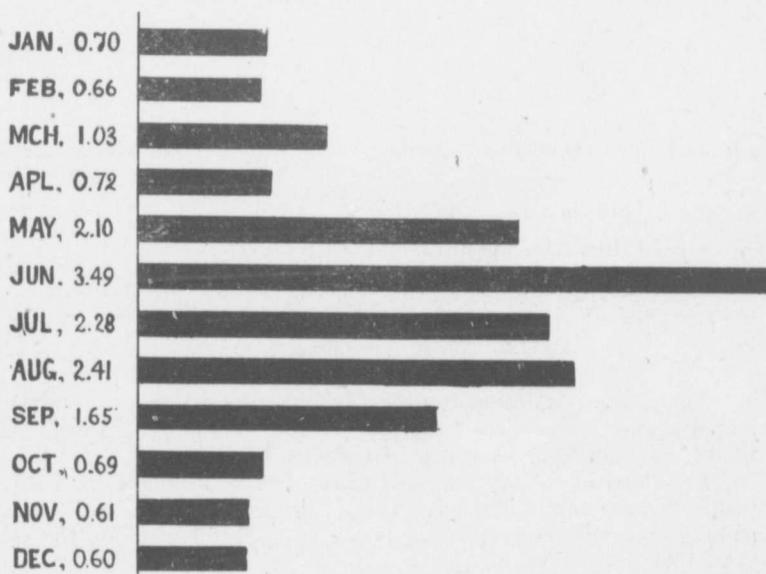


growth of shrubs does not lend itself so well to a second ploughing in the same season, although this varies with the height and woody nature of the shrubs appearing.

STORING MOISTURE.

Moisture is "stored" in new land by preventing the "run off" and by facilitating the absorption of rain water by the soil. The "run off" occurs on new land, as on fallow, at the time of the melting of the snow in the spring and sometimes after heavy downpours of rain. On prairie land, unlike land to be fallowed, practically nothing can be done to prevent the moisture from melting snow running away. On the other hand most of the "run off" after heavy rains may be entirely prevented.



AVERAGE YEARLY PRECIPITATION FOR TEN YEARS = 16.94.

Reference to the figures showing the monthly precipitation in Saskatchewan will show that May, June and July are our rainy months, and that in June on the average about one-fifth of the whole year's moisture falls, or much more than in any other month of the year. It is after our heavy rains that the greatest run off occurs, and, of course, this is increased on rolling or hilly land.

Unfortunately, it is a peculiarity of our climate that both precipitation and temperature are apt to vary considerably from the average, thus sometimes rendering less effective the farmer's best plans. But until we can foretell with considerable accuracy the weather conditions weeks in advance, the precipitation of the average season should be our best guide in planning tillage operations for the control of moisture.

Ploughed land absorbs more of the rainfall than unploughed land. Breaking done early in the rainy season will, therefore, give greater