

grain. These plants had produced seed and appeared to be well adapted to their new conditions. It is very abundant in the Territories where it spread with considerable rapidity.

It is a smooth annual, growing about two feet high with pointed opposite leaves which grow together at the base. Its flowers are pink and about half inch in diameter, giving place to seed pods within a fine angled calyx.

As to methods of eradication it may be successfully combated by planting the land with some crop that requires much cultivation. Late summer fall or plowing the field just as the plant is in blossom and before the seed ripened, will also prove effectual. Should some plants appear the next season they should be pulled from the crop while in bloom, when they are easily distinguishable.

The seeds are usually found in wheat and care should be taken to ensure that seed grain is clear of it.

The seeds are twice as large as Wild Mustard and similar in shape and color. They may be distinguished from the seed of wild vetch which are about the same size by a slightly roughened surface while the latter is smooth.

***CATCHFLY** (*Silene noctiflora*). It is an annual, very leafy, and grows from one to two feet high, with a few creamy, white flowers. It has a viscid secretion all over its stem, often so profuse that the leaves and stem are covered with small insects entangled in it. The calyx have five awl-shaped teeth.

It seeds very abundantly and these are commonly found in grass and clover seed.

Time of flowering, July to September; time of seeding, July to October. Rotation of crops with careful cultivation will easily dispose of it.

***RAGWEED OR ROMAN WORMWOOD** (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*). Ragweed with its divided leaves and long spikes of flowers is becoming very common in Ontario, and is doubtless known to most farmers. It is an annual and is a universal weed of grain fields in some sections. It reappears frequently, following the grain crop, and is one of a very aggressive character.

This plant flowers from July to September and seeds from August to November, an average plant producing about 5,000 seeds. It is dispersed by wind and water, being borne long distances by freshets and is frequently found as an impurity in clover seed, especially American Red Clover. Careful selection of seed is, therefore, an essential feature in the extermination of the weed. Special attention should be given to preventing the seed ripening. The ground should be cultivated at frequent intervals after harvest, until late in the fall, then plow or rib up and follow with a hoed crop. When in grass cover with a mower in September or October if the plants are likely to go to seed.

Ragweed, when eaten by cows, gives bitterness to milk.

Vitality of buried seeds five years.

DODDER (*Cuscuta epithymum*). During the past year especially there has been imported and distributed through this Province a comparatively new seed, known as dodder. Six species of dodder have been reported in Canada, one on flax, two on clover and alfalfa, and the others on various economic plants. *Cuscuta epithymum* is, however, the only one that has yet proven itself dangerous in Ontario.

Dodder is a plant that differs from the majority of plants in not being able to draw its nourishment from either the soil or air, but belongs to the parasites, or those plants which live upon the juices or reserve products of other plants. It does not produce leaves, but masses of yellowish or reddish stems which throw out haustoria (suckers) at points where they come in contact with the stem of the clover, and by fixing these sucking discs into the stems establishes a union which enables it to draw the juices of the clover.

* Specified in Seed Control Act.