

tion, heat, air and moisture are necessary. We should be careful, therefore, not to bury the seed too deeply lest we remove it too far from the heat and air. We should also avoid going to the other extreme, sowing too shallow, thus depriving it of moisture. This emphasises the necessity of cultivating the soil so as to get a good seed bed, one that brings the moisture near the surface, where the heat and air is. Enough surface cultivation should be given to permit and encourage the air and heat from the top and the moisture below to reach the seed, thus providing a condition that will hasten germination and prevent at the same time the escape of moisture by evaporation.

Thorough cleaning and grading with the fanning mill will not alone guarantee a good healthy growth, but will result in a crop that will ripen more evenly and give a better sample for market. To produce the best sample for the market we must consider a few other things in order to secure the highest quality. Generally speaking, the seed that is used throughout the province is not pure in variety, consequently some of the plants ripen earlier than others with the result that the colour of the sample is not uniform. Again, some of the plants take longer to mature, and if the field is cut when the average plant is fit to harvest the miniature plants yield shrunken grains. It is apparent, therefore, that we require a seed pure in variety. This is exceptionally hard to secure and very often we may have to use the seed we have until we are able to procure or purchase seed that is pure in this respect.

The production of seed pure in variety is interesting, as well as profitable and the average farmer who does not wish to purchase a high priced seed can, if he chooses, improve his own grain by careful selection. The plan outlined by the Canadian Seed Growers' Association is an easy one to follow. Selecting the best heads of one type or variety out of the crop on one's own farm makes the procuring of good seed less costly than any other method. Enough seed should be selected in this way to sow a quarter of an acre or more. From the matured crop on that quarter of an acre enough to sow another quarter of an acre should be selected and the balance can be sown as the general crop on the farm. The product of the third selection in this way will be eligible for registration if it has been examined and favourably reported on by one of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association inspectors.

Quality Important.

In oats quality especially should be considered. During the last few years we have been looking for oats that yield well and weigh well per bushel. As a consequence we have many varieties which have poor feeding and milling qualities, simply because we have introduced varieties that look good to the eye but are very thick and heavy in the hull. When we feed our horses three quarts of oats we are simply giving them two quarts of food, the other quart being made up of hull that is practically ironclad and indigestible. An oat should have a thin hull and a comparatively large kernel.

Frozen Oats.

The best way to distinguish frozen oats is quite simple. Take a single grain and split it in two. If it is frozen you will notice a dark streak running through the meat. This is evidence that the oats are unfit