



Central Alberta Sheep

SOIL AND RAINFALL

The soil is a rich black loam with clay sub-soil. The clay sub-soil retains the moisture and there is no need for irrigation or dry farming in Central Alberta. The country is level or gently rolling and where drainage is necessary it can easily be accomplished with a small amount of work.

Government reports show the average annual rainfall to be in the neighborhood of 20 to 22 inches, about 15 inches of which falls during the growing season. The practical farmer will recognize this condition as ideal.

AVERAGE CROP YIELDS

Good crops of every kind can be grown. During the present season there has been grown as high as 45 bu. of wheat to the acre and this figure is not uncommon in Central Alberta. The crop returns, according to the Provincial Government figures, during the ten years (1909 to 1918) show an average yield per acre for that period for the whole Province of Alberta of spring wheat 18.06 bu., winter wheat 20.2 bu., oats 36.23 bu., and barley 25.96 bu. If you compare these figures with the average crop figures in the grain-growing states of the United States, where land sells as high as \$500.00 per acre, you will see that the intrinsic value from crops of the lands in Central Alberta is many times the present prices. Vegetables of every kind; potatoes, cabbages, cauliflower, beets, carrots, peas, beans and small fruits grow exceptionally well, the richness of the soil rendering the use of fertilizers unnecessary.

MARKETS

The lands shown on the map herewith are all close to railroad transportation and are all within marketing distance of Edmonton, which is the natural market for the products grown in Central Alberta. There are towns along the railways every few miles and in practically all of them there are from one to five grain elevators, as well as stock-shipping facilities. The train service is good so that the farmer and dairyman can always be certain that he can market his products quickly and there is always a market for whatever products the farmer has to sell. For export, grain and live stock go east via Fort William and the Great lakes to the Atlantic or west to the Pacific for the rapidly developing Orient trade. For this Central Alberta has a preferential position owing to the short haul to the Pacific.