

crop of wheat sown as late as the 10th of June, and to fill and ripen without a speck of rust, and to yield 20 to 30 bushels an acre, is surely a consideration.'

What I stated in 1856, with a considerable degree of confidence, has been, I rejoice to say, fully borne out by three years more experience.

And what I would like to bring before the public at this time is a theory I entertained seven years ago, and which in my mind is fully established—that the ravages of the midge are confined to about 10 days; and that fall wheat which has shot before the 25th of June, has for all this time comparatively escaped; while both fall and spring wheat shooting between the 25th of June and the 7th of July, has been more or less injured; and then the spring wheat coming in after that time has escaped the midge.

I will now give you the result of my observations for the present season, in this vicinity.

The midge was first perceived on the wing on the 27th June, and in that shape till the 7th of July. All wheat in head before the 27th of June, was not much injured; while all which shot between the 27th of June and the 7th of July, has much of the maggot in it. A neighbor has a field of club wheat sown in the second week of April, clear of insects; while another piece of land sown with Fife at the same time, is full of it. This is accounted for by the Club being ten days earlier in maturing. I have visited several fields in this neighborhood within the last two or three days. One field sown on the 5th of May, will be damaged nearly 25 per cent; another sown on the 8th will suffer about 20 per cent.; and all I have yet seen which was sown after the 12th is clear altogether.

I send you these few particulars, with the hope that it will draw the farmers to make closer observations, as to time and the habits of those enemies of our crops, than they are generally in the habit of doing; having myself more faith in evading the mischief than curing it, by trying to destroy the insects themselves.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours most respectfully,

JOHN WADE.

Hamilton Gardens, near Port Hope, }

August 4th, 1859. }

A correspondent sends us a head of spring Fife wheat, touched by the midge, and appears to think it somewhat remarkable that it should be so affected. It is not at all uncommon. The Fife wheat is only valuable for its power of resisting rust. It can be sown late to avoid the fly, without being liable to the ravages of the other diseases. From the case mentioned by Mr. Wade, it is quite evident that the fly in spring wheat may be avoided by early sowing as well as by late. The fly did no injury, it would appear, at Port Hope, to wheat which had shot before the 25th of June. We should like to have information from other places as to the date of the insect's appearance.—*Globe*.

WHEAT FLY—DRAINAGE.

To the Editor of the Colonist.

SIR,—Having carefully read the several communications that have appeared in your columns, including your own remarks, on the subject of this country's greatest enemy, namely the wheat midge, I must say if your own suggestions were acted upon, the fly would soon be exterminated; but I cannot learn from any one of your correspondents what the results has been to any of the systems recommended. It is evident, however, from the information furnished that the evil only appears for a few days in its destructive form during the season; and the farmer whose wheat crop is either too far advanced when the insect appears as effectually to resist its ravages, or too late to feed it, may be considered fortunate.

I would ask, is it prudent for any man, or class of men, to trust to chance in overcoming difficulties that every path in life is liable to, when a remedy founded on experience is at hand, which, if applied, will place the interest involved almost beyond the reach of chance?

That the soil of Canada can be cleared of the pest which now threatens its prosperity must be obvious to any one having studied the history of agriculture in Britain. Effec-