

THE USES OF RAPE. Rape is valuable as a pasture ; as a catch crop ; as a green manure, and as a cleaning crop.

1. **Rape as a pasture.** Rape is an excellent pasture for sheep and lambs and for cattle that are being fattened, and so far as we can judge from our limited experience, it will also furnish good pasture for swine. The nutritive ratio of green rape as given by Wolf is 1:2.9, while that of red clover in blossom is only 1:5.7. All things considered the value of rape for fattening is from two to three times greater than that of one cutting of a crop of clover of a similar area.

In 1889 we pastured 48 lambs on rape ; in 1890, 537 head, and in 1891, 666 head. A number of these in each instance were carried on into the winter after the season for pasturing was over, and it was found that they fed well when taken off the rape and put into winter quarters.

In our experience of three years in growing rape we find that one acre will pasture on an average 10 to 16 lambs from 2 to 2½ months when rye grown for fodder, has preceded the rape the same season. When grown on ground that had not been cropped previously the same season, all the conditions being favorable, we found that one acre of rape would pasture 36 to 37 head of lambs for 2 months, and that it increased the live weight of the lambs 762 pounds, which at 5 cents per pound would put the food value of the rape at \$38.10 per acre. In our experience the lowest average gain made per month by any considerable number of lambs pasturing upon rape alone was 7.80 pounds, and the highest 12.60 pounds.

In 1890 the average price paid for 48 lambs when bought October 9th was \$3.85 per head. They were sold the following March for the Halifax market at \$7.71 per head. In 1890 the average price paid for 537 lambs when delivered at this station in September and October was \$3.76 per head. The average price received for 364 head shipped to Buffalo on December 19th was \$5.54. The following May 100 head shipped to Liverpool sold in that market at \$11.79 per head. A limited number of choice ones were selected and fed on through the summer. Two of these were taken to the American Fat Stock Show at Chicago and won first and second prizes respectively in their classes in continental competition.

Last year 666 head were purchased in Prince Edward Island, eastern Ontario and Toronto. The average price paid was \$3.15 when laid down at our station. The average price for which they were sold in the months of January, February, March, April and May was \$5.73. They went to the markets of Ontario, the United States and England. The profits on the lambs bought in 1889 and 1890 were highly satisfactory as may be gleaned from the reports already published concerning them. The same is also true of those purchased in