

BUCKWHEAT.

Seven and one-half acres of buckwheat were sown on 27th of June upon land newly cleared and ploughed, at the rate of one bushel per acre; 220 pounds of 2-5-8 fertilizer per acre was sown with the seed. The yield from the 7½ acres was 136 bushels. At no time was the crop vigorous. The land was very rough and uneven.

EXPERIMENTAL FARM, NAPPAN, N.S.

W. W. Baird, B.S.A., Superintendent.

SEASONAL NOTES.

Grain-growers cannot be otherwise than pleased with the effect of the 1914 season on cereal crops in general. Although the spring growing period was somewhat unfavourable owing to the cold and damp weather, nevertheless the various grains made good growth when they once got started. The summer season was fairly dry and allowed the grain to ripen in good condition, and the weather during the harvesting period could not have been more auspicious.

Seeding was done during the few very fine days of the latter part of May. Weather conditions were so favourable just at this time that germination took place much more rapidly than last year, as the grain was only seven days in showing above the ground, whereas last year it was from eighteen to twenty days; and although the grain was some fifteen days later being sown this year, it was more advanced by the first week in June than it was the previous year, due to favourable weather conditions.

The first part of June was very cold and frequent rains were recorded. The weather became more favourable toward the latter part, however. July and August were good growing months with only occasional showers and cool weather. September opened with cool, wet weather, but several exceptionally fine days occurred during the middle of the month and presented ideal conditions for harvesting. All grains were stored in excellent condition and very satisfactory yields were recorded.

This year all the principal cereals were tested in duplicate plots of one-sixtieth acre.

SPRING WHEAT.

Eleven varieties of wheat were grown. The seed was sown on May 21 at the rate of 1 bushel and 3 pecks per acre. The land was a medium heavy clay loam, and was thoroughly cultivated to insure a perfect seed bed. The plots were fairly free from lodging, smut and rust.

The highest yield obtained this year was from White Fife—41 bushels 15 lbs. per acre. Marquis was second with a yield of 42 bushels 15 lbs. per acre. The average yield from all the wheat plots was 36 bushels 5 lbs. per acre.

The following varieties can be particularly recommended for this and surrounding districts: Marquis, Red Fife, Huron (bearded) and Stanley.

BARLEY.

Twelve varieties of barley were tested, six of six-rowed and six of two-rowed. The land was a medium to heavy clay loam, and was well prepared. The grain was sown on May 22 at the rate of 2 bushels per acre. All the barley plots were very free from noxious weeds, insect pests and lodging.

The highest yield obtained was from Swedish Chevalier, which gave over 65 bushels per acre. French Chevalier and Gold gave 58 bushels. These three varieties are of the two-rowed type. Among the six-rowed varieties Nugent gave the highest yield, 56 bushels, and Manchurian came next with 54 bushels.

The varieties recommended are: (two-rowed) Swedish Chevalier, French Chevalier and Invincible. (Six-rowed) Manchurian and Odessa.