

merchable crops. And, above all, you cannot afford to introduce troublesome weeds upon your clean farm.

The best investment a farmer can make is undoubtedly an up-to-date fanning mill. Thousands of farms have been seeded down with weeds to such an extent that they have become almost unprofitable to work, simply through failure on the part of the farmer to clean his seed before putting it in the ground.

Crops and Seeding.

It has been found that a crop from thin sowing usually takes longer to ripen. On irrigated land there cannot be any doubt that fairly heavy sowing should be resorted to, as economy of moisture is not in that case a serious object, and thick sowing will hasten maturity. It has been found that the press drill is by far the best implement for seeding in Southern Alberta.

The Dominion Experimental Farms system has only recently been extended to the Province of Alberta, and there are not, therefore, any conclusive data available in regard to the proper time for seeding each grain and the quantity to use. Certain conclusions have, however, been reached through the actual experience of farmers in the Province covering the past twenty years or more, upon which the following observations are based.

Spring Wheat.—Opinions are undivided as to the proper time to sow Spring Wheat. This grain should be seeded as soon as it is possible to cultivate the land in the Spring, and it is not generally a success on Spring-plowed land. It should be sown either on summer-fallowed or fall-plowed land. Quantity per acre, one and a half bushels on non-irrigated and one and three-quarters on irrigated land.

Winter Wheat.—This crop has not been produced in Southern Alberta long enough to form any very definite conclusions in regard to the proper time of seeding. The best farmers endeavor to have their seeding done during the last two weeks of the month of July. It is good practice to put the grain in not less than three inches in depth. This grain is perhaps the most successful grain crop that Southern Alberta produces. Winter killing is rare. In fact, with deep and early seeding, it is almost entirely eliminated.

Winter Wheat is nearly always sown on summer-fallowed land, but may be put in on land broken deep in the early summer and thoroughly disced before seeding. The finer the seed bed is pulverized, the more certain the farmer is of good returns. Quantity of seed per acre, the same as Spring Wheat.

Oats.—There used to be considerable diversity of opinion as to the merits of putting in oats prior to the first of May. It is, however, pretty well acknowledged now that early seeding of oats is good practice. This cereal is a fairly early ripener. The number of days of maturity range from 110 to 118. It is not, therefore, nearly as essential to sow oats early as, for instance, spring wheat. Generally, oats put in before the 10th of May is a safe proposition. Quantity of seed per acre, two and one-half bushels.

Barley, Two-Rowed.—The demand for irrigated two-rowed barley is almost inexhaustible, and this crop will, therefore, ultimately become one of the most valuable in the Irrigation Block. The only variety to sow is