

Mixture

In making up a mixture of the Oats and Peas it is necessary to have two varieties that will mature in about the same time. Banner Oats and Golden Vine Peas make a good combination. They should be sown at the rate of two bushels of Oats and one bushel of Peas. This allows for the maximum amount of Peas than can be harvested with the grain binder.

Preparation of Soil

While this crop will give best results on summer-fallow, it is not good practice to sow it on land prepared in this manner since fair yields can be obtained on spring plowing. The soil should be packed, harrowed and seeded as soon after plowing as possible to prevent the soil drying out, the best results will be obtained if it is done the same day as plowed.

Date of Seeding

When grown for fodder the seed should be sown some time between the 15th of May and the 15th of June. This will be late enough to escape the spring frosts and will be early enough to obtain the June rains. If it is to be used for pasture the seeding should be done at succeeding dates to give continuous pasture throughout the season. The following dates have given good satisfaction: May 15th, May 30th, June 15th, June 30th and July 15th.

Harvesting

The proper time to harvest Oats and Peas to obtain the highest quality of fodder is when the top portion of the Oat panicle is turning yellow. The cheapest and easiest method of harvesting is with the grain binder. The sheaves must be made small and only about six put in a stook so that they may cure without spoiling. After it has become thoroughly dried it can be either stacked outside or put in the mow. Oats and Peas may be used as a substitute for corn in districts where corn cannot be grown and the product preserved in the silo. Where used in this manner they should be cut at about the same stage of maturity as for cured fodder and put in the silo as soon as cut. Extra tramping in the silo is necessary to exclude the air from the hollow stems. Where this precaution is taken the ensilage will remain sweet and give nearly as good results as that made from corn.

WINTER RYE

Winter Rye has proven to be hardy in Manitoba and where late fall and early spring pasture is desired it will be found to give good satisfaction. Because of its ability to remain green after being frozen it affords a large amount of pasture from the last week in September until freeze-up. Under normal weather conditions it will live over winter and renew its growth the following spring providing good grazing before the grasses start into growth.