

PREFACE.

The material presented in this bulletin represents the results of careful investigations and observations covering a period of seven years. The writer, Mr. Norman Criddle, has been connected with the Seed Branch staff for several years in the capacity of Assistant Seed Analyst at the Ottawa or Calgary seed laboratory. He has also made a large number of colored and black and white drawings for "Farm Weeds" and other publications of this Branch. Mr. Criddle is a close student of nature and a very careful observer. During the past few years he has been devoting special attention to a study of Wild Oats and False Wild Oats. The experiments described by Mr. Criddle were conducted on his farm at Treesbank, Man., and his observations and conclusions constitute a very valuable contribution to the knowledge of the subject discussed.

From the knowledge acquired it does not seem probable that False Wild Oats will ever become a serious weed pest, and for the present at least it will not be considered as coming within the meaning of the term "noxious weeds" as applied to the Seed Control Act in official seed testing, but will be classed among the useless or harmful plants, or weeds of secondary importance.

GEO. H. CLARK.