

CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
OTTAWA, - - - CANADA.

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PART I.

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INDIAN CORN OR MAIZE AS A FODDER PLANT.

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There are few subjects more important at the present time to the farmers of Canada than that of the economical winter feeding of stock. The man who carries on mixed farming is, as a rule, the successful farmer. To depend for returns on the sale of cereals alone, or the disposal of hay grown on the farm is a wasteful course, which, however rich the soil may be, will sooner or later reduce it to such a condition of exhaustion as to make cropping unprofitable. But when the growing of grain and hay is associated with the raising of stock and pasturing, and where a large proportion of what is grown on the land is fed to cattle on the farm, the manurial constituents obtained will, if well cared for and returned to the soil, materially aid in maintaining its fertility for a very long period. Farmers do not always realize that with every load of grain they sell they dispose of a part of the valuable constituents of their land in the important ingredients which this grain has taken from the soil and stored in its substance, and this process of drawing continually on the fertility of the land without making adequate returns is just as certain to result in impoverishment as would frequent drafts without deposits on a limited balance in a bank.