

In 1944 objective for field beans has been set at 150,000 acres, an increase of 76% over the 1943 crop of 85,000 acres. The guaranteed price for beans purchased for export from the 1943 crop was \$2.50 a bushel, which was about 15 cents a bushel higher than the domestic ceiling.

For field peas the 1944 objective calls for 200,000 acres, which would be 96,000 acres or 98% higher than in 1943. Virtually all of the production of dried peas is used domestically, but any surplus quantities available would probably find a ready export market.

Fibre Flax.- The production of fibre flax has been considerably stepped up in Canada during wartime in response to requests from the United Kingdom. The 1943 crop was only 35,000 acres, somewhat short of the processing capacity, which can handle the production from about 48,000 acres. The objective for 1944 calls for plantings up to present scutching capacity, or about 13,000 acres more than last year. This would be a return to the area grown in 1942.

Tobacco.- In view of a high rate of consumption and rapidly depleting stocks of tobacco, increased planting of the various types of this crop grown in Canada is suggested for 1944. For flue-cured tobacco, of which 60,000 acres was grown in 1943, mainly in Ontario, at least 70,000 acres is considered feasible in 1944. For burley tobacco, exclusively an Ontario crop, 10,000 acres is suggested, which is also a sizeable increase.

Increased plantings of cigar leaf, dark and pipe tobaccos in Ontario and Quebec are considered desirable for 1944. The labour and fertilizer situation are the chief question marks in attaining these goals.

FORAGE CROPS

With livestock population expected to continue at relatively high levels in 1944, the objectives for hay, clover and alfalfa call for an acreage at least as great as in 1943. This means about 1,500,000 acres of alfalfa and nearly 10,000,000 acres of hay and clover.

To meet future requirements for new seeding of hay and pasture crops, objectives for 1944 production of various forage crop seeds were suggested. The amount of clover and grass seeds harvested in any season is largely dependent on nature, and although in virtually every case the desire is to exceed 1943 output, it is believed that acreage will be ample provided a good set of seed occurs.

The objective for alfalfa seed at 15,000,000 pounds is well above the estimated 1943 crop, but sufficient acreage exists in Saskatchewan or Alberta alone to meet all requirements if favorable conditions obtain. For alsike clover a goal of 7,000,000 pounds in place of the 1943 crop of slightly more than 4,000,000 pounds is suggested. Ontario is the chief alsike clover seed producing province. With respect to red clover seed, the bulk of which is produced in Ontario and Quebec, the goal is 8,000,000 pounds or a 42% increase over 1943. A sweet clover seed objective for 1944 of 7,500,000 pounds is suggested, compared with 6,750,000 pounds in 1943. The bulk of this seed is produced in the Prairie Provinces, particularly Manitoba.

Timothy seed is the only hay crop for which a slightly smaller production is requested next year. A small increase for brome grass seed and crested wheat grass seed, exclusively prairie crops, is suggested. Individual objectives were not set for various other grass seeds such as blue grass, creeping red fescue, rye grass and bent grass, but in most cases a production at least as large as in 1943 is considered desirable.

A keen demand for forage crop seed exists in the United States, but with little surplus over and above Canadian domestic requirements, the seed export office at Lindsay, Ontario, has been granting exports permits only in limited