

STINK WEED, PENNY CRESS, "FRENCH WEED."



Stink Weed.

THE FIGURE IS ONE-THIRD NATURAL SIZE.

time to time as they reach the flowering stage and never allowing a seed to ripen. The seeds are very dark brown, flattened, beautifully marked with concentric grooves on the surface. When wet they are covered with a jelly-like coating by means of which they adhere to any object with which they come in contact and are thus distributed widely and easily by sticking to the feet of animals and to farm implements.

No weed is better known in Manitoba than this with its rank smell, dark green, smooth leaves, clusters of small white flowers and early ripening, yellowish, flattened pods, each one about the size and shape of a five cent piece and containing 16 seeds. The rank, nauseous odour of this plant, the rapidity with which it spreads, and the almost incredible difficulty of eradicating it when once established, make it important that its appearance should be known to everyone, so that no effort may be spared to destroy every plant as soon as noticed. I learn from Mr. Angus Mackay that this terrible pest is spreading rapidly in the Territories. He says:—"I find Stink Weed is a more difficult weed to kill and is spreading more even than the Tumbling Mustard." Seeds germinate in autumn and plants actually in flower when winter sets in, will mature their pods the following spring. There are frequently two crops of seed in a season. The only way to clean land of this pest is to adopt some treatment by which the seeds are made to germinate and the young plants are destroyed before they can ripen fresh seeds. Plants with fully formed pods should never be ploughed in, and when a field is found to be badly infested with this weed, before ploughing it should be mowed closely and the weeds at once carefully collected into one spot. They should then be burnt as soon as they are dry enough. It is not a very easy weed to burn and many of the seeds will remain on the ground uninjured after the fire. Particular attention must, therefore, be paid to the spot for some time, mowing frequently the young plants from

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