

With spring grains the seed is usually sown with the nurse crop. When this is done the nurse crop, especially if it be oats, should be seeded lightly. Some make a practice of cutting the nurse crop early for feeding purposes, so as to give the clover a chance to grow during the summer season. However, if the ground is well prepared, a good clover catch can be secured, with a nurse crop harvested in the usual way, though it is better not to sow thickly.

Another plan of seeding to clover that works successfully is not to seed with the nurse crop, but a few days after the regular crop is sown. The practice is to allow the nurse crop to show above ground, then roll, sow the clover seed, and harrow afterwards. This has the advantage of helping the growing crop by stirring the soil when the plants need it the most, and provides a good seed bed for the clover. If clover is sown with the nurse crop, harrowing cannot be done, as it will injure the sprouted clover. Of course, the seeding to clover by this plan will have to be done by hand. The hand seeder can, however, be used to advantage, and the work done very quickly.

Some New Grains and Their Value.

For the last few years I have tested in small quantities every new grain that has come on the market, and would like to give the readers of THE FARMING WORLD my experience as to their value generally.

Emmer is the first grain of which I will speak. It is by many called Speltz, but that is incorrect as Speltz is an entirely different grain. In buying care should be taken to see that you do not get Speltz instead of Emmer. It weighs forty pounds to the measured bushel, it is free from attacks of rust, straw is fairly stiff, as good as oat in that respect, and about equal to rye for feed. Its nature is that of wheat, when hulled it looks very much the same only it is somewhat three cornered. The hull is claimed to be as good as oat hulls for feed. It yields better than oats or barley and makes as good feed for any stock. It is better than barley for horses, and better than oats or barley for poultry, which seem to like it as well as wheat. On the whole I class it equal to barley as feed and more productive. Every farmer should give it a fair trial.

Speltz is somewhat of the same nature, but is coarser hulled, roots easily, has rather weak straw, yields

poorly, and, on the whole, real Speltz is not to be recommended for general cultivation.

Corn wheat or Polish Wheat has been rather extensively advertised this last year or so, and I have given it a trial. Its nature is that of wheat, the kernel is larger and is somewhat three-cornered like emmer. Its straw is coarse, it rusts easily. It is a poor yielder, and, on the whole, it is not worth cultivation.

Hullless barley has also been in my list of experiments. The white variety only, however. While it is somewhat nicer to handle than the ordinary barley, it does not yield well enough to be cultivated generally. The black hullless does better according to the experiments conducted at Guelph, but it does not come up to the ordinary or common barley.

Beardless barley has also been tried with indifferent success, and has also been dropped as an unprofitable investment. In conclusion, I would like to say that of the grains I have mentioned emmer is the only one I can recommend to the farmer for general cultivation.

A. S. D. WEBBER,
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Broadcast or Drill Seeding.

The importance of a good seed-bed cannot be overestimated. While early sowing is generally preferable and most profitable, the condition of the soil must not be overlooked. Too many farmers sacrifice proper condition of the soil for the sake of getting the crop in early. How often we see men, the first thing in spring, plowing and the upturned soil after them glittering with moisture. Soil in such a condition will not form the most desirable seed-bed. It may not always be desirable to wait for all the hollows to dry out properly, but wait against working soil before it has become free from stickiness and sufficiently dried to pulverize readily.

Some will advocate broadcast sowing, others drill sowing. This will depend upon the condition of the soil. If a good, clean, loose seed-bed can be obtained, then the drill is the proper method to adopt. By the drill the seeds are all put in at the same depth, will come up together, grow up together, and ripen together. Whereas with broadcast sowing the seed is put in at all depths, the seeds don't germinate together, nor come up together, nor does the sun have the same chance to penetrate through the growing grain. As a result, the broadcast seeding tends more than the drill to produce short straws with short heads, which do not properly mature and ripen with the other grain. Besides, drill seeding requires less seed per acre and averages a greater yield under equal conditions.—H. B., Wellington Co., Ont.

Soy Beans.

The soy bean is a leguminous plant or nitrogen-gatherer, of Japanese origin. Some varieties root to foliage, some to seed. The bean is used in Oriental lands as human food, but in this country the entire plant is grown and used as cattle forage, or as a cover crop and green manure. Some of the larger varieties produce fair amounts of forage, which is relatively rich in protein, and well relished. I have grown soy beans in a small way for several years, and feel like recommending its general adoption in this section. Seldom, if ever, can an amount of food be found equal to that which may be produced in corn

crop with an equal expenditure of time, effort and money. The forage from the soy bean is richer, but quality gain is more than offset by the quantity loss as compared with corn. It is readily planted and is handled throughout the growing season much as is corn, but is less easily harvested, may be fed green as a soiling crop or ensiled alone or with corn. It may be planted in the row with corn with a fair success. I mix one quart of soy beans with every four quarts of corn I plant for the silo.

On good soil this is perhaps as good a way to grow it as any while burial in the silo with the corn.

J. P. BLETCHER,
Fulton Co., N.Y.

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