

CO-OPERATIVE EXPERIMENTS WITH WINTER WHEAT.

From among the varieties of winter wheat which have been tested in the Experimental Department of the College, nineteen of the most successful kinds have been selected and distributed over Ontario within the past six years. These have been sent out in sets of from three to five varieties in each set. Fourteen thousand four hundred and eighty-five packages of winter wheat have been distributed during the past six years, and comparative tests have been made upon fully thirty-eight hundred Ontario farms. This system of co-operative experimental work was established by the ex-students of the Agricultural College, but, through repeated requests from other farmers, an invitation is extended to all interested persons to join in the work. The results have, on the whole, been very gratifying, and the numerous experimenters have become much interested in the different experiments undertaken. For detailed results of these experiments, the reader is referred to the reports of the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union, which are published annually.

From among the conclusions given in the report of last year regarding these co-operative experiments with winter wheat for 1897, the three following are quoted as being of interest in connection with the results given in this bulletin :

1. "In average yield of winter wheat per acre, the Dawson's Golden Chaff stood highest among eleven varieties tested over Ontario in 1893, nine varieties in 1894, 1895 and 1896, and seven varieties in 1897."

2. "Three varieties of winter wheat have been tested over Ontario for four years in succession with the following yields of grain per acre: Dawson's Golden Chaff, thirty-two and a half bushels; Early Red Clawson, twenty-nine and one-eighth bushels; and Early Genesee Giant, twenty-nine and one-twentieth bushels."

3. "Dawson's Golden Chaff was the most popular variety with the experimenters in each of the past four years."

The Dawson's Golden Chaff is an Ontario variety, and it has certainly made a good record for itself at the Agricultural College and throughout Ontario. We sent some of this variety to a few of the agricultural colleges of the United States and have received reports this year already from two of these institutions. The assistant director at the Pennsylvania Agricultural College writes as follows: "By the enclosed report you will see that Dawson's Golden Chaff, the variety of wheat received from your station two years ago, has come out ahead this year." The "enclosed report" referred to gives the results of thirty-two varieties tested in 1898. From this report we also quote the following: "Dawson's Golden Chaff and Gold Coin are the only ones that promise to be better than the old and standard varieties." The results of the experiment with different varieties of winter wheat conducted at the Michigan Agricultural College are reported by the Agriculturist in the following language: We have just finished the threshing of some of our variety tests of winter wheat, the more promising of which resulted as follows: Dawson's Golden Chaff, 42 bushels per acre; Russian, 31; Ourrell, 28; Rudy, 28; and Chaplin, 26.