

straw is not, however, by any means a correct guide to the amount of fibre present. Furthermore, small carefully weighed samples of flax, if scutched with special care, are apt to give a considerably higher percentage of fibre than an acre scutched by the ordinary methods. Several preliminary tests of small samples of flax, weighed before and after scutching, were made in 1915, but until they have been repeated and carefully checked it would probably be misleading to publish the figures.

For the ten years, 1901-10, the average yield for the whole of Ireland varied between 536 and 378 pounds per acre, the mean for the whole period being 463½ pounds. The highest yield obtained in Ireland was in the year 1852, when an average yield of 580 pounds per acre was obtained over an area of 137,008 acres.

YIELD OF SEED.

Although the figures quoted below refer in most cases to the amount of seed produced, where the crop is grown exclusively for that purpose and not for fibre, still they will serve a useful purpose in showing the amount of variation there is in different localities and in different years. It is only in the province of Ontario that the crop is grown both for fibre and seed, and the figures for that province as a whole may be taken as fairly representative of the amount of seed obtained from a fibre crop. The experiments conducted at Guelph, however, seem to refer to seed production only, no mention being made of the fibre. The average yields of flax seed per acre for the whole Union and for the various provinces during the five years 1910-15 were as follows: Canada, 11.27 bushels; Quebec, 11.14 bushels; Ontario, 16.44 bushels; Manitoba, 12.18 bushels; Saskatchewan, 11.17 bushels; Alberta, 11.53 bushels.

At Saskatoon, in the province of Saskatchewan, the yield of seed in 1915 varied from 18.27 to 26.50 bushels per acre. The average yield was 22 bushels, the highest yield being obtained after corn.

The yields in thirty-six districts in Alberta in 1913 varied between 5 and 27 bushels per acre, and in 1914 between 1.29 and 15 bushels per acre. The average yield in Alberta for the twelve years, 1903-14, was 9.21 bushels.

Prof. C. A. Zavitz, of Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, carried on experiments with flax seed obtained from Ontario, Manitoba, Russia, and Holland. His results for the seven years 1905-11 were as follows:—

Variety.	Average Yield of Straw per Acre.	Average Yield of Grain per Acre.
	Tons.	Bushels.
Manitoba.. . . .	2.51	17.55
Ontario Common.. . . .	2.54	16.42
Russian.. . . .	2.32	14.99
Holland.. . . .	2.31	13.94

"The yields of flax per acre in 1911 were unusually light, owing to the exceedingly hot dry weather." The average yields per acre for that year were: Ontario Common, 8.7 bushels; Manitoba, 8.4 bushels; Holland, 7.7 bushels; and Russian, 7.4 bushels.

"In 1912, Manitoba flax gave an average of 30, and Ontario flax 28.1 bushels per acre. The highest yield in 1912 was obtained from Minnesota No. 25, which gave a yield of 32.9 bushels of seed per acre."

"In 1913 the highest results were obtained from the following varieties: Manitoba, 25.9; Ontario, 25.8; the Argentine, 22.8; and the Minnesota No. 25, 22.6 bushels per acre."

As there is no mention of the fibre, the presumption is that the foregoing plots of flax at Guelph were allowed to ripen their seeds fully before being harvested. Still the figures are of interest as showing how in the same locality there is great variation from year to year, according to the character of the season. It is safe to assume that in an ordinary year from one-half to two-thirds of the above amounts of seed could have been obtained, and at the same time a fibre of good quality.