

## Experimental Farms.

ascertained. On the other half of each plot the seed was to be allowed to ripen and then harvested and threshed to ascertain its yield. Arrangements were also made for packing and forwarding a bale of straw of 50 lbs. weight from each of the eight plots to Messrs. J. and J. Livingston, of Baden, Ont., to be retted and scutched and the quantity and quality of fibre in each case ascertained.

The soil selected at the Central Farm for these plots was a sandy loam of good quality, which received a dressing of barn-yard manure, about 12 tons per acre during the winter of 1895-96. The previous crop was English Horse Beans. The land was not ploughed in the autumn of 1895, but was ploughed in the spring of 1896 about 6 inches deep and harrowed with the smoothing harrow before sowing. The land for all the plots was ploughed the same date, but before each successive sowing that portion of the soil to be sown was disc-harrowed and harrowed with the smoothing harrow to destroy any weeds which might have germinated and to give each plot as to cultivation the same advantage at the start. The seed was sown broadcast and lightly harrowed to cover it and the land rolled.

The following are the results obtained at the Central Experimental Farm, the particulars of the information gained at the branch farms will be found in the reports of the superintendents.

### FIRST SOWING.

Plot 1.—Forty lbs. of seed per acre, sown 7th May, came up 12th May, pulled one-half of plot for straw 28th July, when the seed was about one third ripe, height 36 to 45 inches. The other half of this plot was harvested for seed 14th August.

Weight of straw per acre.....	6,070 lbs.
Yield of seed per acre.....	12 bushels 28 lbs.

Plot 2.—Eighty lbs. of seed per acre, seed sown, flax pulled and seed harvested same dates as plot 1. Height of flax when pulled, 36 to 45 inches.

Weight of straw per acre.....	7,878 lbs.
Yield of seed per acre.....	11 bushels 20 lbs.

### SECOND SOWING.

Plot 3.—Forty lbs. of seed per acre, sown 14th May, came up 19th May, pulled one-half of plot for straw, 3rd August, when the seed was about one-third ripe. Height 36 to 43 inches. The other half of this plot was harvested for seed, 14th August.

Weight of straw per acre.....	5,550 lbs.
Yield of seed per acre.....	17 bushels 8 lbs.

Plot 4.—Eighty lbs. of seed per acre, seed sown, flax pulled and seed harvested same dates as plot 3. Height of flax when pulled, 36 to 43 inches.

Weight of straw per acre.....	6,657 lbs.
Yield of seed per acre.....	15 bushels 15 lbs.

### THIRD SOWING.

Plot 5.—Forty lbs. of seed per acre, sown 21st May, came up 27th May. Pulled one-half of plot for straw, 10th August, when seed was about one-third ripe. Height 33 to 39 inches. The other half of this plot was harvested for seed 16th August.

Weight of straw per acre.....	5,270 lbs.
Yield of seed per acre.....	13 bushels 2 lbs.

Plot 6.—Eighty lbs. of seed per acre. Seed sown, flax pulled and seed harvested same dates as plot 5. Height of flax when pulled, 36 to 43 inches.

Weight of straw per acre.....	5,420 lbs.
Yield of seed per acre.....	11 bushels 44 lbs.