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The Soy Bean

(Experimental Farm Note.)
The Soy bean may be grown either for its stem and leaves as a forage plant, or for the seeds only.

The oily seeds are especially valuable as a stock-feed since chemical analysis has shown that they stand in the amount of nutritive material present. The oil is used mainly for making soap, but as it is a semi-drying oil it is used to some extent, as a substitute for linseed oil in certain kinds of paint. It is also used in the manufacture of linoleum.

The soy bean will grow on almost any kind of soil and its climatic requirements are somewhat the same as those of corn. On this continent it is grown for seed mainly in the south-eastern United States. As the seed is sown only after the danger of frost is over, it follows that the season in many parts of Canada is not sufficiently long for the seeds to ripen properly. However, experiments conducted at the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa during the last three years have shown that there are certain early maturing varieties which are quite satisfactory.

The yield of seed per acre in the United States varies from 15 bushels in the Northern States to 40 bushels in the Southern States.

During the year 1916 seeds of two varieties were, through the kindness of the Bureau of Plant Industry at Washington, D. C., obtained for trial. These were Manchú and Black Eyebrow. They were sown in plots 6 to 12 feet each plot measuring 1 2/3 ft. an acre. The seeds were planted in five rows with intervals of 2 1/2 feet between the rows. The particular rate of sowing was not determined, the seeds being sown fairly thick and the plants being thinned out afterwards.

The variety Manchú was sown on May 22, 1916, and attained an average height of 3 feet. The plot was cut on September 25, the weight of seeds after removal from the pods being 6 pounds 4 ounces. Dr. Shutt, Dominion Chemist, analysed these seeds and found the amount of oil present to be 29.38 per cent.

The variety Black Eyebrow was sown on the same date, and attained the same average height. It was cut on the same day as Manchú and yielded 7 pounds 2 1/2 ounces of seeds with an oil content of 29.05 per cent.

If 7 pounds of seed be taken as the average of the two plots and if 56 pounds be reckoned to the bushel the yield would work out at about 28 1/2 bushels per acre.

In the same year a few seeds of another variety obtained from the Botanical Garden at Nancy, France, were sown on May 29. The plants attained a height of 16 inches. The plot was harvested on September 25th, the seeds being well ripened by this date. As only a few seeds of this variety were available they were given plenty of room to grow, with the result that one plant bore 185 pods, while another had 217 pods, only those pods being counted which contained one or more seeds.

In 1917 the seeds were sown on May 22 and harvested on October 3. Another sowing was made on June and these were harvested on October 9. Well-ripened seeds were obtained in both cases, the later sown plants being about 6 inches taller than those sown earlier.

In 1918 seeds of four varieties were sown on May 26, and harvested respectively on September 23, October 2, October 18, October 19.

Returns from Bees at the Experimental Farms

(Experimental Farm Note.)

Bees are now kept at sixteen of the Experimental Farms as compared with only five in 1913. During the past few years the number of colonies at some of the Farms have increased, while at others they have decreased, chiefly through loss in winter. Methods of preventing much of this loss were worked out.

Taking a period of six years (1913-1918), inclusive, the highest returns have been obtained at the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa where the average annual yield of honey per colony, spring count, for the six years, amounted to 121.6 pounds. The next highest yield was at Nappan, N. S., where the average yield was 102.2 pounds for a period of five years (1913-1917; Lethbridge, Alta., gave 74.2 pounds, 1913-1918; Invermere, B. C., gave 70.5 pounds, 1914-1918; Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere, Que., 59.4 pounds, 1913-1917; Cap Rouge, Que., 58.7 pounds, 1913-1918; Lacombe, Alta., 52.6 pounds, 1914-1918; Fredericton, N. B., 50.9 pounds, 1914-1918; Kentville, N. S., 47.4 pounds, 1915-1918.

The above gives only the amount of surplus honey obtained; to this must be added the net increase made in bees during the same period. The average value of the honey, the price of which varied at the different Farms, and of the increase of bees per colony during the same number of years is as follows—Ottawa \$17.27, 1913-1918; Lethbridge, Alta., \$17.49, 1914-1918; Nappan, N. S., \$15.41, 1913-1917; Invermere, B. C., \$13.25, 1914-1918; Lacombe, Alta., \$12.79, 1915-1918; Indian Head, Sask., \$11.83, 1915-1917; Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere, Que., \$10.42, 1913-1917; Fredericton, N. B., \$9.91, 1914-1918; Sumnerland, B. C., \$9.38, 1916-1917; Cap Rouge, Que., \$8.79, 1913-1918; Kentville, N. S., \$8.11, 1914-1918.

White and alkali clover were the principal sources of honey at all the Farms except Lethbridge where the honey came from alfalfa. All the honey produced was of good quality, that from Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere being exceptional fine.

A Few Good Buys

If there is a man in Norfolk and Haldimand who has been holding back from buying clothes in the hope of a drop in prices—here is an opportunity. There is no drop in prices, because the price has never been raised, but stock-taking has found us with a few lengths of pure wool, fast dye suitings and over coatings—bought several seasons ago when qualities were better and prices lower than they are to-day—that we have decided not to carry over another season. So for the month of January (only) these will be cleared out at the original prices of 1914-15.

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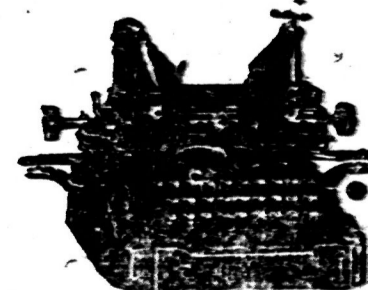
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Boys Arrested

A Simcoe correspondent says Waterford is a very bad town and needs more police protection. Perhaps he is right. At any rate two Waterford boys were locked up in Simcoe last week and two more taken over Thursday. Rumor has it that there is more to follow. They are suspected of stealing from Waterford stores. County Constable Et. Jarvis and Ira Steckler have been making quick work since the warrants were issued.—Waterford Star.

Resident Found Dead

Simcoe, Feb. 3.—Geo. Snook, an aged tenant living in the McNally Building was found dead in his room this morning. He was subject to epilepsy, and this has been given as the cause of his death. A few days ago he left for Toronto, N.Y., to look up his son, Tom Snook of Toronto, but was turned back at the border. Mrs. Harry Barber of Simcoe is a niece.



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