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The Park Grass Plots at Rothamsted 1856 -1949



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FOREWORD

The Park Grass Plots at Rothamsted, laid down in 1856, afford a unique opportunity of studying the effects of long continued manuring with different types of fertiliser on the yield and botanical composition of hay.

The experiment was one of the late Dr. Winifred E. Brenchley's chief interests, and at the time of her death in 1953 she had nearly completed a revision of her monograph Manuring of Grassland for Hay (1924) which dealt with the results up to 1919, so as to include the data for the next thirty years. In the present version, apart from some condensation and a few minor additions, little alteration has been made in the original text. The name, however, has been changed, as a simpler title was thought preferable. The present publication supplies the most recent data available on the botanical composition of the plots, the regular hay analyses having been discontinued since 1949.

Observations on the flora are, however, still being carried out and the yields from two cuts of hay recorded as before.

Mention must be made of the help of Miss Heather Pellant, who was largely responsible for the final botanical separations in 1948 and 1949, and who has given valuable assistance in the preparation of the tables.

K. WARINGTON
January 1958

The need for a reprint has afforded the opportunity to introduce some improvements in presentation. At the suggestion of Miss J. M. Thurston, a new table (1b) giving the yield for the limed plots and the pH values of all plots has been added, the Figures have been grouped together at the end of the text, and page-references included in the List of Contents. These, it is hoped, will facilitate the use of the data.

K. WARINGTON June 1969