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Memoranda of the Plan and Results of the Rothamsted Field Experiments, June 1862



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Experiments on Permanent Meadow Land; the Park

Rothamsted Research

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EXPERIMENTS WITH DIFFERENT MANURES ON PERMANENT MEADOW LAND.
THE PARK.

The Land has probably been laid down with Grass for some centuries; and no seed has been artificially sown for the last 25 years at any rate; nor is there any record of fresh seed having been sown since the time the Grass was first laid down. The experiments commenced in 1856, at which time the character of the herbage appeared to be uniform over all the Plots. With with some few exceptions, the same description of Manure has been applied to the respective Plots each year.
(Area under experiment, about 6½ acres).

Plots.	Manures, per acre, for the growing (7th) Grass-crop—1862. [1 acre = (about) 0.40 Hectare. 1 lb. (pound, avoird.) = (about) 0.45 Kilogramme. 1 cwt. (hundredweight) = (nearly) 51.0 Kilogrammes. 1 ton = (nearly) 1016.0 Kilogrammes. 1 lb. per acre = (about) 1.12 Kilogramme per Hectare. 1 cwt. per acre = (about) 125.5 Kilogrammes per Hectare.]	Average Produce per Acre per Annum during 6 years, 1856-61. (Weighed as Hay.)
1	14 tons Farmyard dung ; and 200 lbs. "Ammonia-salts" (c)	48½
2	14 tons Farmyard dung alone	42½
3	Unmanured, continuously	23½
4 (a)	Superphosphate of Lime (2)	28
5	ditto ; and 400 lbs. "Ammonia-salts"	44
6	400 lbs. "Ammonia-salts" ; and 2000 lbs. Sawdust	33
7	400 lbs. ditto ; and 2000 lbs. Sawdust	53½
8	Mixed Alkalies (3)	34½
9	ditto (4)	36
10	ditto ; and 2000 lbs. Sawdust	56½
11	ditto ; and 400 lbs. "Ammonia-salts" ; and 2000 lbs. Sawdust	55½
11 (a)	ditto ; and 800 lbs. (c) ditto ; and 200 lbs. each, Silicate of Soda and Silicate of Lime	61
12	Unmanured, continuously	27
13	"Mixed Alkalies" ; "Superphosphate of Lime" ; 400 lbs. "Ammonia-salts" ; and 2000 lbs. Cut Wheat-straw	25½
14	ditto ; and 550 lbs. Nitrate of Soda	51½
15	none ; and 550 lbs. ditto	37
16	"Mixed Alkalies" ; "Superphosphate of Lime" ; and 275 lbs. ditto	43½
17	none ; and 275 lbs. ditto	32½

(1) Equal parts Sulphate and Muriate of commerce.
(2) 200 lbs. Bone-ash, 150 lbs. Sulphuric Acid (Sp. gr. 1.7).
(3) 300 lbs. Sulphate of Potass, 200 lbs. Sulphate of Soda, and 100 lbs. Sulphate of Magnesia.
(4) In previous years the same as described above (3); in the present season, no Sulphate of Potass, but 500 lbs. Sulphate of Soda, and 100 lbs. Sulphate of Magnesia.
(5) Average of 3 years only (1859-60-61); Sawdust alone the three previous years (1856-7-8).
(6) 800 lbs. in 1856-7-8, and 400 lbs. only in 1859-60-61.
(7) This is one-half of the former Plot "11," and the application of Silicates only commenced this Season (1862).
(8) Average of four years only, as these experiments did not commence until 1858.