

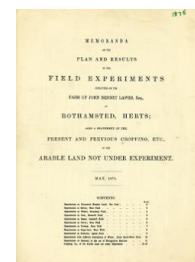
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# Yields of the Field Experiments 1875

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## Memoranda of the Field Experiments at Rothamsted May 1875

### Rothamsted Research

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1875

MEMORANDA  
OF THE  
PLAN AND RESULTS  
OF THE  
FIELD EXPERIMENTS  
CONDUCTED ON THE  
FARM OF JOHN BENNET LAWES, Esq.,  
AT  
ROTHAMSTED, HERTS;  
ALSO A STATEMENT OF THE  
PRESENT AND PREVIOUS CROPPING, ETC.,  
OF THE  
ARABLE LAND NOT UNDER EXPERIMENT.

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MAY, 1875.

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THE PARK.

EXPERIMENTS WITH DIFFERENT MANURES ON PERMANENT MEADOW LAND.

The Land has probably been laid down with Grass for some centuries. No fresh seed has been artificially sown within the last 40 years certainly; nor is there record of any having been sown since the Grass was first laid down. The experiments commenced in 1856, at which time the character of the herbage appeared uniform over all the Plots. Excepting as explained in the Table and in the foot-notes, the same description of Manure has been applied year after year to the same Plot.

(Area under experiment, about 7 acres.)

PLOTS.	Manures, per acre, per Annum.						Produce per Acre, weighed as Hay.					Average per Acre, 1856-1873.
	1856-63, 8 years, 14 tons Farmyard Manure, and 200 lbs. Ammonia-salts (1); average produce 49½ cwt.	1856-63, 8 years, 14 tons Farmyard Manure; average produce 42½ cwt.	1864 and since, unmanured; average produce (10 years, 1864-73) 35½ cwt.	Unmanured, continuously	3½ cwt. Superphosphate of Lime (2)	3½ cwt. Superphosphate of Lime, and 400 lbs. Ammonia-salts	14th Season; 1860.	15th Season; 1870.	16th Season; 1871.	17th Season; 1872.	18th Season; 1873.	
1	(1856-63, 8 years, 14 tons Farmyard Manure, and 200 lbs. Ammonia-salts (1); average produce 49½ cwt. }	(1856-63, 8 years, 14 tons Farmyard Manure; average produce 42½ cwt. }	(1864 and since, unmanured; average produce (10 years, 1864-73) 35½ cwt. }	..	..	61	43½	31½	29½	23½	41½	1
2	..	..	..	..	..	55½	33½	25½	18½	16½	38½	2
3	..	..	..	..	..	33	5½	14½	12½	12½	21½	3
4	..	..	..	..	..	40½	7½	13½	15½	13½	23½	1) 4
5	..	..	..	..	..	45½	8½	28½	26	19½	35½	
6	..	..	..	..	..	35½	5½	22½	16½	6½	27½	5
7	..	..	..	..	..	56½	16½	37½	25½	26	31½	6
8	..	..	..	..	..	54½	17½	39½	37½	34½	35½	7
9	..	..	..	..	..	46½	12½	30	22½	18½	31	8
10	..	..	..	..	..	68½	29½	58½	50½	43½	52½	9
11	..	..	..	..	..	57½	21½	46½	38½	33	47½	1) 11 2)
12	..	..	..	..	..	75½	42½	63½	63½	46½	60½	
13	..	..	..	..	..	78½	49½	65½	63½	56½	65½	12
14	..	..	..	..	..	38½	11½	26½	20½	16½	24½	13
15	..	..	..	..	..	77½	48	63	62½	57	46½	14
16	..	..	..	..	..	76½	56½	61½	55½	51½	49	15
17	..	..	..	..	..	53½	15½	38½	32½	33½	26½	1) 16 2)
18	..	..	..	..	..	74½	33½	57	40	41½	47½	
19	..	..	..	..	..	54½	19½	38½	29½	25½	34½	17
20	..	..	..	..	..	55½	14½	37½	33½	26½	22½	18
	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	38½	34½	19
	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36	38½	37½	20

(1) "Ammonia-salts"—In all cases equal parts Sulphate and Muriate of Ammonia of Commerce. (2) The "Superphosphate of Lime" is, in all cases, made from 200 lbs. Bone-ash, 150 lbs. Sulphuric Acid, 5 gr. 1-7 (and water). (3) Plots 6, 8, and 10, had, besides the Manures specified, 2000 lbs. Sawdust per acre per annum for the first 7 years, 1856-1862, but without effect. (4) 200 lbs. 1856-63 inclusive. (5) 500 lbs. in 1862 and 1863. (6) Only 400 lbs. in 1859-60-61. (7) The application of Silicates did not commence until 1862. (8) 550 lbs. Nitrate of Soda is reckoned to contain the same amount of Nitrogen as 400 lbs. of "Ammonia-salts." (9) Average of 15 years only, as the manures specified were first applied in 1859 (previously, 1856-7 and 8, sawdust only). (10) Average of 6 years only, as these experiments did not commence until 1855. (11) Average of 9 years only, as the experiment only commenced in 1865.

HOOS FIELD.

EXPERIMENTS ON THE GROWTH OF BARLEY YEAR AFTER YEAR ON THE SAME LAND, WITHOUT MANURE, AND WITH DIFFERENT KINDS OF MANURE. Previous Cropping—1847, Swedish Turnips, with Dung and Superphosphate of Lime, the Roots carted off; 1848, Barley; 1849, Clover; 1850, Wheat; 1851, Barley manured with Ammonia-salts. First Experimental Barley Crop in 1852. Barley every year since; and, unless stated to the contrary in the Table, or in the foot-notes, the same Manure has been applied year after year to the same Plot.

(Area under experiment, about 4½ acres.)

Plots.	Manures, per acre, per annum.	PRODUCE PER ACRE.						Plots.
		Average per Annum, over 20 Years, 1852-1871.			Twenty-third Season, 1874.			
		Quantity.	Weight per Bushel.	Total Straw.	Quantity.	Weight per Bushel.	Total Straw.	
1 O.	Unmanured continuously	Bushels.	lbs.	cwts.	Bushels.	lbs.	cwts.	1 O.
2 O.	3½ cwt. Superphosphate of Lime, (1)	20	52½	11½	17½	54½	8½	2 O.
3 O.	200 lbs. Sulphate of Potash, 100 lbs. Sulphate of Soda, 100 lbs. Sulphate of Magnesia	22½	53	12½	21	56	9	3 O.
4 O.	200 lbs. Sulphate of Potash, 100 lbs. Sulphate of Soda, 100 lbs. Sulphate of Magnesia, 3½ cwt. Superphosphate	27½	53½	14½	26	56½	9½	4 O.
1 A.	200 lbs. Ammonia-salts (2)	32½	52½	15½	23½	54½	12½	1 A.
2 A.	200 lbs. Ammonia-salts, and 3½ cwt. Superphosphate	47	52½	20	30	54½	20	2 A.
3 A.	200 lbs. Ammonia-salts, 200 lbs. Sulph. Potash, 100 lbs. Sulph. Soda, 100 lbs. Sulph. Magnesia	35	52½	20½	30	55½	18½	3 A.
4 A.	200 lbs. Ammonia-salts, 200 lbs. Sulph. Potash, 100 lbs. Sulph. Soda, 100 lbs. Sulph. Magnesia, 3½ cwt. Superphosphate	46½	54	23½	45½	57	28½	4 A.
(1) A.A.	275 lbs. Nitrate of Soda	37	52	22½	30½	55	15	1 A.A.
(2) A.A.	275 lbs. Nitrate of Soda, and 3½ cwt. Superphosphate	49½	53	30	43	54	27½	2 A.A.
(3) A.A.	275 lbs. Nitrate of Soda, 200 lbs. Sulph. Potash, 100 lbs. Sulph. Soda, 100 lbs. Sulph. Magnesia	37	52½	24	32	55½	18½	3 A.A.
(4) A.A.	275 lbs. Nitrate of Soda, 200 lbs. Sulph. Potash, 100 lbs. Sulph. Soda, 100 lbs. Sulph. Magnesia, 3½ cwt. Superphosphate	49½	53	32½	51	57	27½	4 A.A.
(1) A.A.S.	275 lbs. Nitrate of Soda, 400 lbs. Silicate of Soda, (3)	38½	52½	23	37½	55½	20	1 A.A.S.
(2) A.A.S.	275 lbs. Nitrate of Soda, 400 lbs. Silicate of Soda, and 3½ cwt. Superphosphate, (4)	48	53	30	51	56	28½	2 A.A.S.
(3) A.A.S.	275 lbs. Nitrate of Soda, 400 lbs. Silicate of Soda, 200 lbs. Sulph. Potash, 100 lbs. Sulph. Soda, and 100 lbs. Sulph. Magnesia	41	52½	25	41	55½	23	3 A.A.S.
(4) A.A.S.	275 lbs. Nitrate of Soda, 400 lbs. Silicate of Soda, 200 lbs. Sulph. Potash, 100 lbs. Sulph. Soda, 100 lbs. Sulph. Magnesia, and 3½ cwt. Superphosphate	50	53	33	54	56	33	4 A.A.S.
(1) C.	1000 lbs. Rape-cake	45	53	26	47	57	24	1 C.
(2) C.	1000 lbs. Rape-cake, and 3½ cwt. Superphosphate	46	53	28	49	57	24	2 C.
(3) C.	1000 lbs. Rape-cake, 200 lbs. Sulph. Potash, 100 lbs. Sulph. Soda, 100 lbs. Sulph. Magnesia	43	53	27	45	57	23	3 C.
(4) C.	1000 lbs. Rape-cake, 200 lbs. Sulph. Potash, 100 lbs. Sulph. Soda, 100 lbs. Sulph. Magnesia, 3½ cwt. Superphosphate	47	53	29	49	57	24	4 C.
(1) N.	275 lbs. Nitrate of Soda	37½ (1)	52½ (1)	22½ (1)	35	55½	19	1 N.
(2) N.	275 lbs. Nitrate of Soda, and 3½ cwt. Superphosphate	41½ (1)	52½ (1)	26½ (1)	42	56	23	2 N.
5 O.	200 lbs. Sulphate of Potash, 3½ cwt. Superphosphate (5)	22½ (1)	53	12½ (1)	17	56	8	5 O.
5 A.	200 lbs. Sulphate of Potash, 3½ cwt. Superphosphate, and 200 lbs. Ammonia-salts	44½ (1)	53	28 (1)	42	57	25	5 A.
M.	100 lbs. Sulphate of Soda, 100 lbs. Sulphate of Magnesia, and 3½ cwt. Superphosphate	21½ (1)	53	12½ (1)	18	55	9	M.
6 (1)	Unmanured continuously	22	52½	12	16	54	8	1 (1)
6 (2)	Ashes (burnt soil and turf)	21	52½	12	15	54	8	2 (1)
7 (1)	Farmyard Manure 14 tons, 20 years, 1852-1871; unmanured since	48	54	28	46	57	26	7 (1)
7 (2)	Farmyard Manure 14 tons, every year	48	54	28	46	57	26	7 (2)

(1) The "Superphosphate of Lime" is, in all cases, made from 200 lbs. Bone-ash, 150 lbs. Sulphuric acid sp. gr. 1.7 (and water).  
 (2) 200 lbs. per annum for the first six years, 1852-7.  
 (3) 200 lbs. per annum for the first six years, 1852-7.  
 (4) 200 lbs. per annum for the first six years, 1852-7.  
 (5) The Ammonia-salts—in all cases equal parts Sulphate and Muriate of Ammonia of Commerce.  
 (6) Five years, 1852-7, instead of Nitrate of Soda, 400 lbs. Ammonia-salts per annum; next 10 years, 1858-67, 200 lbs. Ammonia-salts per annum; 1868, and since, 275 lbs. Nitrate of Soda per annum. 275 lbs. Nitrate of Soda is reduced to the same amount of Nitrogen as 200 lbs. Ammonia-salts.  
 (7) The application of Silicate of Soda did not commence until 1864; in 1864-5-6 and 7, 200 lbs. Silicate of Soda and 200 lbs. Silicate of Lime were applied per acre, but in 1868, and since, 400 lbs. Silicate of Soda, and no Silicate of Lime. These plots ("A.A.S.") comprise, respectively, one half of the original "A.A." plots, and, excepting the addition of the Silicates, have been, and are, in other respects, manured in the same way as the "A.A." plots; and, for the sake of comparison with the latter, the average produce is given for the whole period of 20 years, 1852-1871.  
 (8) 2000 lbs. Rape-cake per annum for the first six years, and 1000 lbs. only, each year since.  
 (9) 300 lbs. Sulphate of Potash, and 3½ cwt. Superphosphate of Lime, without Nitrate of Soda, the first year (1852); Nitrate alone each year since.  
 (10) 550 lbs. Nitrate of Soda for 1853-4-5-6, and 7; and 275 lbs. only, each year since.  
 (11) Ammonia-salts also the first year, but not since.  
 (12) Average of 19 years only.  
 (13) Average of 14 years only.

BROADBALK FIELD.

EXPERIMENTS ON THE GROWTH OF WHEAT YEAR AFTER YEAR ON THE SAME LAND: WITHOUT MANURE, AND WITH DIFFERENT KINDS OF MANURE. Previous Cropping—1839, Turnips, with Farmyard Manure; 1840, Barley; 1841, Peas; 1842, Wheat; 1843, Oats; the last four Crops Unmanured. First Experimental Wheat Crop in 1844. Wheat every year since; and, with some exceptions, nearly the same description of Manure on the same Plots each year—especially during the last 23 years (1852 and since). Unless otherwise stated, the Manures are sown in the Autumn before the seed.

(Area under experiment, about 13 acres.)

PLOTS.	Manures, per acre, per annum.	PRODUCE PER ACRE.				Plots.
		Average per Annum, 20 Years, 1852-1871.		Thirty-first Season, 1874.		
		Quantity.	Weight per Bushel.	Quantity.	Weight per Bushel.	
0	Superphosphate of Lime (three times as much as on No. 5 and succeeding Plots) .. .. .	Bushels, 17½	lbs., 58½	Bushels, 16½	cwts., 11½	0
1	Sulphates of Potass, Soda, and Magnesia (twice as much as on No. 5 and succeeding Plots) .. .. .	15½	58½	11½	59½	1
2	Farmyard Manure (14 tons every year) .. .. .	35½	60	39½	60½	2
3	Unmanured continuously .. .. .	14½	57½	13	58½	3
4	Unmanured for Crop of 1852, and since; previously Superphosphate (made with Muriatic Acid), and Sulphate Ammonia .. .. .	15½	58½	13½	58½	4
5 (a and b)	200 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate Potass, 100 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate Soda, 100 lbs. Sulphate Magnesia, 3½ cwts. Superphosph. of Lime Ⓞ .. .. .	17	58½	13	59	5 (a and b)
6 (a and b)	200 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate Potass, 100 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate Soda, 100 lbs. Sulphate Magnesia, 3½ cwts. Superphosph., and 200 lbs. Ammonia-salts Ⓞ .. .. .	26½	59½	25½	59½	6 (a and b)
7 (a and b)	200 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate Potass, 100 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate Soda, 100 lbs. Sulphate Magnesia, 3½ cwts. Superphosph., and 400 lbs. Ammonia-salts Ⓞ .. .. .	35½	59½	39½	59½	7 (a and b)
8 (a and b)	200 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate Potass, 100 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate Soda, 100 lbs. Sulphate Magnesia, 3½ cwts. Superphosph., and 600 lbs. Ammonia-salts Ⓞ .. .. .	38½	59	40½	60	8 (a and b)
9 (a and b)	200 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate Potass, 100 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate Soda, 100 lbs. Sulphate Magnesia, 3½ cwts. Superphosph., and 550 lbs. Nitrate Soda Ⓞ .. .. .	32½	58½	38½	60½	9 (a and b)
10 (a and b)	350 lbs. Nitrate of Soda Ⓞ. (The Nitrate for both 9a and 9b always sown in the Spring.) .. .. .	26	59½	24½	57½	10 (a and b)
11 (a and b)	400 lbs. Ammonia-salts alone, for 1845, and each year since; Mineral Manure in 1844 .. .. .	22½	57½	25½	56½	11 (a and b)
12 (a and b)	400 lbs. Ammonia-salts alone, for 1845, and each year since (excepting 1846 and 1850); Mineral Manure in 1844, '48, and '50 .. .. .	25½	58	27½	57	12 (a and b)
13 (a and b)	400 lbs. Ammonia-salts, 3½ cwts. Superphosphate .. .. .	28	57½	32½	58	13 (a and b)
14 (a and b)	400 lbs. Ammonia-salts, 3½ cwts. Superphosphate, and 366½ lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate of Soda .. .. .	33½	59½	39½	59½	14 (a and b)
15 (a and b)	400 lbs. Ammonia-salts, 3½ cwts. Superphosphate, and 280 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate of Potass .. .. .	33½	59½	37	60½	15 (a and b)
16 (a and b)	400 lbs. Ammonia-salts, 3½ cwts. Superphosphate, and 280 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate of Magnesia .. .. .	33½	59½	36½	59½	16 (a and b)
17 (a and b)	200 lbs. Ⓞ Sulph. Pot., 100 lbs. Ⓞ Sulph. Soda, 100 lbs. Sulph. Mag., 3½ cwts. Superphosph. Ⓞ; 400 lbs. Amm.-salts, sown in Spring Ⓞ .. .. .	32½	59½	27½	61½	17 (a and b)
18 (a and b)	200 lbs. Ⓞ Sulph. Pot., 100 lbs. Ⓞ Sulph. Soda, 100 lbs. Sulph. Mag., 3½ cwts. Superphosph. Ⓞ; 400 lbs. Amm.-salts, sown in Spring Ⓞ .. .. .	34	59½	30½	61	18 (a and b)
19	{ 1852-64, 13 years, 200 lbs. Sulph. Potass, 100 lbs. Sulph. Soda, 100 lbs. Sulph. Mag., 3½ cwts. Superphosph., and 800 lbs. Ammonia-salts; average produce 39½ bush. Corn, 46½ cwts. Straw .. .. .	32½	59	30½	61	19
20	{ 1865 and since, unmanured; average produce (9 years, 1865-73) 47½ bushels Corn, 15½ cwts. Straw .. .. .	32½	59	30½	61	20
21	400 lbs. Ammonia-salts .. .. .	31½ (15)	59½ (15)	33½ (14)	60½ (14)	21
22	200 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate Potass, 100 lbs. Ⓞ Sulphate Soda, 100 lbs. Sulphate Magnesia, and 3½ cwts. Superphosphate .. .. .	17½ (15)	58½ (15)	14 (15)	58½ (15)	22
	3½ cwts. Superphosphate of Lime (11), 300 lbs. Sulphate of Ammonia, and 500 lbs. Rape-cake .. .. .	37½	58½	37½	59	
	Unmanured continuously .. .. .	15½ (19)	58 (19)	13½	59½	
	200 lbs. Ⓞ Sulph. Potass, 100 lbs. Ⓞ Sulph. Soda, 100 lbs. Sulph. Magnesia, 3½ cwts. Superphosph., and 100 lbs. Muriate Ammonia .. .. .	21½	58½	22½	59½	
	200 lbs. Ⓞ Sulph. Potass, 100 lbs. Ⓞ Sulph. Soda, 100 lbs. Sulph. Magnesia, 3½ cwts. Superphosph., and 100 lbs. Sulphate Ammonia .. .. .	21	58½	21½	59½	

(1) 300 lbs. per annum for Crop of 1858, and previously.  
 (2) 200 lbs. per annum for Crop of 1858, and previously.  
 (3) Superphosphate of Lime, "—in all cases, excepting for Plot 19, made from 200 lbs. Bone-ash, 150 lbs. Sulphuric acid sp. gr. 1.7 (and water).  
 (4) The "Ammonia-salts," in all cases, equal parts Sulphate and Muriate of Ammonia of Commerce.  
 (5) For 1858, and previously—1½ line as much.  
 (6) For 1872 and previously, 400 lbs. Sulphate Ammonia, sown in the Autumn.  
 (7) For 1872 and previously, 200 lbs. Sulphate Ammonia and 500 lbs. Rape-cake, sown in the Autumn.  
 (8) The Muriate of Potash, 100 lbs. per year, transposed.  
 (9) Made with Muriatic instead of Sulphuric Acid.  
 (10) Average of 20 years' Ammonia-salts, alternated with Mineral Manures.  
 (11) Average of 20 years' Mineral Manures, alternated with Ammonia-salts.  
 (12) Plots 17 had the Ammonia-salts for the Crop of 1874.  
 (13) Plots 18 had the Mineral Manures for the Crop of 1874.  
 (14) Average of 19 years only; as, in 1868, owing to a mistake in carting, the produce could not be ascertained.  
 (15) The Plots marked "(a and b)" are divided into duplicate portions, "a" and "b," respectively, which are manured alike; excepting that, for the crops of 1864-5-6 and 7, the "a" portions of plots 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, and 17 (or 18), received a mixture of soluble Silicates in addition to the other Manures, but, hitherto, without any material effect; and for the crops of 1868, and since, cut straw (that produced in the previous season) has been applied (instead of Silicates) on the "a" portions of plots 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 17 (or 18); also for the crop of 1874, and since, the straw of the previous season has been cut up and applied to the "a" portion of plot 15.



## EXPERIMENTS ON THE GROWTH OF LEGUMINOUS CROPS.

## I.—BEANS, PEAS, AND TARES—GEESCROFT FIELD.

EXPERIMENTS on the growth of Leguminous corn-crops (beans, peas, and tares), with different descriptions of manure, were commenced in 1847, about nine acres being devoted to the purpose.

Experiments with BEANS were continued for thirteen consecutive seasons, to 1859 inclusive; but, during the later years, the crop fell off very much, and the land became very foul.

In 1860 the land was fallowed.

In 1861 a crop of wheat, without manure, was taken.

In 1862 beans were again sown, but with some variation in the manuring.

In 1863 the land was fallowed.

In 1864, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, beans were grown, with much the same manures on the same plots, each year, as in 1862.

In the winter of 1869-70, 5000 lbs. of fresh burnt lime were applied per acre, over all the plots.

In 1870 beans were grown with the same manures on the respective plots as in 1864-69.

In October 1870 winter beans were sown (without manure), but the plants were to so great an extent destroyed by the severe weather which followed, that, in April 1871, the crop was ploughed up, and the land left fallow.

During the winter and early spring of 1871-2, the land was so wet that it could not be prepared in time for sowing. It was therefore left fallow for 1872, at the end of May subsoiled to a depth of about 12 inches, and re-ploughed in July. The winter and early spring of 1872-3 were also so extremely wet, that it was again impossible to prepare the land in time for sowing; it was, however, ploughed up towards the end of March, again left fallow, and re-ploughed in July and October (1873). On February 2, 1874, the land was again set with Beans, but without manure. In 1875 Beans were again sown, with the same manures on the respective plots as in 1864-1870; but owing to the wetness of the land in the first instance, and the subsequent hindrance by other spring sowing, they were not put in until April 1 and 2.

The general result of the experiments with BEANS has been, that mineral constituents used as manure (more particularly potass), increased the produce very much during the early years; and, to a certain extent, afterwards, whenever the season was favourable for the crop. Ammonia-salts, on the other hand, produced very little effect; notwithstanding that a Leguminous crop contains two, three, or more times as much nitrogen as a Gramineous one grown under similar conditions as to soil, &c. Nitrate of soda has, however, produced marked effects. But Leguminous crops grown too frequently on the same land seem to be peculiarly subject to disease, which no conditions of manuring that we have hitherto tried seem to obviate.

Experiments with PEAS were soon abandoned, owing to the difficulty of keeping the land free from weeds, and an alternation of BEANS and WHEAT was substituted; the beans being manured much as in the experiments with the same crop grown continuously as above described. But the wetness of the winter of 1871-72 prevented the sowing of the Beans for the season of 1872; and again the wetness of the autumn and winter of 1872-3 prevented the sowing of the wheat until April 4, 1873, when Nursery wheat was put in, which, however, did not come to maturity, but was cut in the middle of September, yielding about 27 cwt. of gross produce per acre, containing too little corn to be worth thrashing. The land was ploughed in October 1873, and sown with beans February 3, 1874. On October 23, 1874, wheat was sown without manure.

In alternating WHEAT with BEANS, the remarkable result had been obtained, that nearly as much wheat, and nearly as much nitrogen, were yielded in eight crops of wheat in alternation with the highly nitrogenous beans, as in sixteen crops of wheat grown consecutively without manure in another field, and also nearly as much as were obtained in a third field in eight crops alternated with bare fallow.

Experiments with TARES, like those with Peas, were soon abandoned, and for the same reasons. Beans were at first sub-

stituted, with some variation in the description of the manures employed; but this experiment has likewise been abandoned for some years.

II.—RED CLOVER (*Trifolium pratense*)—HOOS FIELD.

EXPERIMENTS on the growth of Clover, with many different descriptions of manure, were commenced in 1849, and, with the occasional interposition of a corn-crop, or fallow, have been continued up to the present time.

As with other Leguminous crops, the result was, that mineral constituents applied as manure (particularly potass) considerably increased the early crops; whereas ammonia-salts had little or no beneficial effect, and were sometimes injurious. It may be added that, even up to the present time, the beneficial effects of long previous applications of potass are apparent whenever there is any growth at all. To go a little more into detail:—

In the first year, 1849, the crops were throughout very heavy; especially with mineral, and without nitrogenous manure.

In autumn 1849 wheat was sown, and in spring 1850 Red Clover. In 1851 small cuttings were taken; and in 1852, though the crops were not heavy, there was by no means a failure. Since that time, however, all attempts to grow clover year after year on the same land have failed to give anything like a full crop, or a plant which would stand the usual time on the ground. Small cuttings were obtained in the autumns of 1855 and 1859 from seed sown in the spring of those years, and small but rather heavier cuttings in June and August 1865, from seed sown in 1864.

On two occasions (1851 and 1854) heavy dressings of Farmyard dung were applied to some of the plots; and in 1854 some received a dressing of 20 tons of dung, and 5000 lbs. of lime, per acre.

On some portions of the land Clover-seed was sown 10 times during the 23 years, 1848-1870 inclusive, and more frequently alone than with a corn-crop; but in 7 out of the last 8 trials the plant died off in the winter and spring succeeding the sowing the seed.

In view of these failures in the field, it is a fact of much interest, that in 1854 Red Clover was sown in a garden, only a few hundred yards distant from the experimental field, on soil which has been under ordinary garden cultivation for probably two or three centuries, and it has every year since shown very luxuriant growth; and, after re-sowing 4 times during the period, namely, in 1860, 1865, 1868, and 1871, a small cutting was taken in the autumn of 1871, two cuttings in 1872, and two in 1873. Notwithstanding some injury from dodder in 1873, there still remained too much plant to break up; and, accordingly, fresh seed was sown between the rows on May 4, and this failing, again on July 7, 1874. Small cuttings were taken June 11, July 22, and September 30, 1874. This (1875) is, therefore, the 22nd season of the growth of Clover, year after year, on this plot of garden ground.

In reference to the field experiments, it may be added that, in 1864, a portion of the land was trenched 2 feet deep, and one-third of the manure was mixed with the layer from 24 to 16 inches, one-third from 16 to 8 inches, and the remainder from 8 inches upwards. Owing to the characters of the season, the mechanical condition of the land was at first very unfavourable after this treatment; but, although many years have now elapsed, and the excess of constituents supplied was in some cases considerable, the plant has died off as completely on these plots as elsewhere.

Again, in the winter of 1867-8 small portions of the experimental land were dug, some to the depth of 9 inches, some to the depth of 18, some to the depth of 27, and some to the depth of 36 inches, and sown to the respective depths with different mixtures; supplying in some cases very large amounts of potass, soda, lime, magnesia, phosphoric acid, sulphuric acid, nitrate of soda, &c. From other similar sized plots, the soil was removed to the depths of 9, 18, and 27 inches respectively, and replaced by soil taken at the same depths from

the garden border, on a portion of which clover had been grown successfully since 1854, as above referred to. In April 1868 clover was sown over the whole of these small plots, and on some other portions of the land not so treated; but the plant for the most part died off during the following winter.

In April 1869 the same portions were re-sown, small quantities of clover were cut in September of that year, but the plant again died off in the winter.

In April 1870 Clover was sown over the whole of the experimental land, this time in conjunction with Barley; but on those portions which had also been sown in 1868 and 1869 the plant again died off during the winter and early spring; whilst from those which had not been sown in 1868 and 1869 two small cuttings were taken in 1871. In the spring of 1872, the plant being then almost entirely gone, the land was ploughed up. It was again ploughed in July 1872, and in March 1873; the intention being to sow some other Leguminous crop; but owing to the wetness and lateness of the season this was not done; the land was again left fallow, and re-ploughed in the beginning of June and the end of July (1873). On May 4, 1874, the land was again ploughed, prepared for sowing, and sown with Red Clover seed, May 5, without manure. The plant came up well, and was very forward in September, when the flowering stems were cut down but left on the land. During the winter and early spring the plant on those portions from which cuttings had been taken in 1871 almost entirely failed; whilst on those from which none had been taken since 1869, a fair plant remains.

In the spring of 1871 the small plots in the field were again re-sown, and those of the garden-soil were entirely enclosed, both around and above, by galvanised wire netting. Small cuttings were taken from these small beds in July 1872, and (excepting from the garden-soil plots, which had yielded considerably more than the others in 1872) larger cuttings were taken in July 1873. The produce was the largest where potass and nitrate of soda were employed, and where they were applied in the largest quantity, and at the greatest depths. In April 1874 there was still some healthy plant on all the plots, but it was considered to be too irregular to preserve. It was, therefore, dug in. The artificially-manured plots were remanured as before, but only to the depth of 9 inches, and seed was sown on May 4th, July 6th, and October 22nd; each time the plant coming up well, but subsequently dying off. On the Garden soil plots, the plant from the first sowing (May 4), for the most part stood; requiring only to be made good here and there on July 6; and in September small cuttings were taken. In May, 1875, the plant was entirely gone on the artificially-manured plots, which were then dug up, and prepared for re-sowing. On the garden soil plots, though the rows were imperfect, some healthy plants still remain, which are therefore left. More small plots were arranged in the spring of 1874; on which the manures were dug in, at the various depths, on May 11th to 14th, and the seed sown on May 16th. On these

new plots, with one or two exceptions, a good plant still remains (May 1875).

The general result of the experiments in the field has been—that neither organic matter rich in carbon as well as other constituents, nor ammonia-salts, nor nitrate of soda, nor mineral constituents, nor a complex mixture, supplied as manure, availed to restore the clover-yielding capabilities of the land; though, where some of these were applied in large quantity, and at considerable depths, the result was better than when they were used in only moderate quantities and applied only on the surface.

On the other hand, it is clear that the garden-soil has supplied the conditions under which clover can be grown year after year on the same land for many years in succession.

The results obtained on the garden-soil seem to show that what is called "clover-sickness," cannot be due to the injurious influence of excreted matters upon the immediately succeeding crop.

That Clover frequently fails coincidently with injury from parasitic plants, or insects, cannot be disputed; but it may be doubted whether such injury should be reckoned as the cause, or merely the concomitant and an aggravation, of the failing condition.

The results of the experiments seem, therefore, to exclude the supposition that the primary cause of failure is either destruction by parasitic plants or insects, injury from excreted matters, or the shade of a corn-crop, and to indicate that it must be looked for in exhaustion of the soil. Still there remain several open questions. Is it exhaustion of certain organic matters rich in carbon, of nitrogenous food, or of mineral constituents? Again: is there an absolute deficiency in the soil of some of the substances in question, or only an unfavourable condition of combination, or, so to speak, of *soil-digestion* of them, for the requirements of Leguminous plants? Or, is there only an unfavourable distribution of them within the soil, considered in relation to the extent and character of the root-range of the crop?

These various suggestions cannot be further considered within the limits of this brief notice, which may be concluded by the following quotation from Rothamsted papers on the subject ('Journal Royal Agricultural Society of England,' vol. xxi. Part I. p. 178; and 'Journal Royal Horticultural Society of London,' vol. iii. p. 86, 1872).

"When land is not what is called 'clover-sick,' the crop of clover may frequently be increased by top-dressings of manure containing potass and superphosphate of lime; but the high price of salts of potass, and the uncertainty of the action of manures upon the crop, render the application of artificial manures for clover a practice of doubtful economy.

"When the land is what is called 'clover-sick,' none of the ordinary manures, whether 'artificial' or natural, can be relied upon to secure a crop.

"So far as our present knowledge goes, the only means of insuring a good crop of Red Clover is to allow some years to elapse before repeating the crop upon the same land."

## BARN FIELD.

### EXPERIMENTS ON THE GROWTH OF ROOT-CROPS.

EXPERIMENTS with TURNIPS were commenced in 1843. Eight acres, divided into numerous plots, were set apart for the purpose; and the crop was grown for ten consecutive years on the same land ("Norfolk Whites" 1843-1848, and "Swedes" 1849-1852); on some plots without manure, and on others with different descriptions of manure. Barley was then grown for three consecutive seasons (1853-1855) without manure, in order to test the comparative corn-growing condition of the different plots, and also to equalize their condition, as far as possible, by the exhaustion of some of the most active and immediately available constituents supplied by the previous manuring. A new series of experiments with Swedes was then arranged, having regard to the character of the manures previously applied on the different plots, and to the results previously obtained. This second series was commenced in 1856, and continued for 15 years—namely, to 1870 inclusive.

It is impossible adequately to state the bearing of the results in a few words, but the following are some of the most characteristic indications:—

1. Without manure of any kind, the produce of roots was reduced in a few years to a few cwt. per acre; but the diminutive plants (both root and leaf) contained a very unusually high percentage of nitrogen.

2. Of "mineral" constituents, phosphoric acid (in the form of superphosphate of lime) was by far the most effective manure; but, when this manure is used alone, the immediately available nitrogen of the soil is rapidly exhausted.

3. Really large crops of turnips can only be obtained when the soil supplies a liberal amount of nitrogenous (and carbonaceous?) matter, as well as mineral constituents; and when they are already available within the soil, or are supplied in the form of farmyard manure, rape-cake, Peruvian guano, ammonia-salts, &c., the rapidity of growth, and the amount of the crop, are greatly increased by the use of superphosphate of lime applied near to the seed.

The land is now devoted to experiments with sugar-beet; for particulars of which see next page.





AGDELL FIELD.

EXPERIMENTS ON AN ACTUAL COURSE OF ROTATION—TURNIPS, BARLEY, LEGUMINOUS CROP (OR FALLOW), AND WHEAT.

These Experiments were commenced in 1848; so that the present crop (1875) is the 28th experimental one, or the fourth crop of the Seventh Course. One-third of the land has been continuously unmanured; one-third manured with Superphosphate of Lime alone once every four years, that is for the turnip-crop commencing each course; and one-third manured (also for the turnip-crop only) with a complex manure, as described in the foot-note, No. 2.

In the Second, Third, and Fourth Courses, clover was sown, but failed; and in them, and in the Fifth and Sixth Courses, beans were taken instead, on half of each plot, and the other half left fallow; for the third crop of the Seventh Course clover was again sown (spring 1873), on half of each plot, the other half being left fallow.

From half of each of the three plots the whole turnip-crop (roots and leaves) was removed; and on the other half the roots were eaten on the land by sheep, and the uneaten leaves spread and ploughed in. In the case of all the other crops, the total produce was removed from the land.

The abstract of the results given below relates to the portions of each plot from which the turnip-crops were entirely removed; and on which, in the second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth courses, beans (not fallow) replaced the clover.

(Area under experiment, about 2½ acres.)

1 lb. (pound avoird.) per acre .. = (about) 1.12 Kilogramme per Hectare, or 0.57 Zollverein Pfund. per Prussian Morgen.  
 1 cwt. (hundredweight) per acre = (about) 125.5 Kilogrammes per Hectare, or 0.64 Centner per Pr. Morgen.

Years.	Description of Crop.	PRODUCE PER ACRE.								
		PLOT 1. Unmanured continuously.			PLOT 2. Superphosphate of Lime, alone, for the Turnip Crops only.			PLOT 3. Complex Manure, <sup>2</sup> for the Turnip Crops only.		
		Corn <sup>3</sup> (or Roots).	Straw (or Leaf).	Total Produce. <sup>4</sup>	Corn <sup>3</sup> (or Roots).	Straw (or Leaf).	Total Produce. <sup>4</sup>	Corn <sup>3</sup> (or Roots).	Straw (or Leaf).	Total Produce. <sup>4</sup>
1ST COURSE, 1848-51.										
1848	Norfolk White Turnips	65½ cwt.	45½ cwt.	111½ cwt.	22½ cwt.	10½ cwt.	33½ cwt.	218 cwt.	15¼ cwt.	369½ cwt.
1849	Barley	44½ bush.	2983 lbs.	5656 lbs.	29½ bush.	2111 lbs.	3841 lbs.	28½ bush.	2083 lbs.	3791 lbs.
1850	Clover (calc <sup>d</sup> . as hay)	..	..	54 cwt.	..	..	5½ cwt.	..	..	63 cwt.
1851	Wheat	28½ bush.	3481 lbs.	5389 lbs.	28 bush.	3371 lbs.	5233 lbs.	28½ bush.	3552 lbs.	5500 lbs.
2ND COURSE, 1852-55.										
1852	Swedish Turnips	26 cwt.	4 cwt.	30½ cwt.	22½ cwt.	20½ cwt.	24½ cwt.	39½ cwt.	36½ cwt.	433 cwt.
1853	Barley	34½ bush.	2430 lbs.	4463 lbs.	28½ bush.	1873 lbs.	3560 lbs.	38½ bush.	2604 lbs.	4873 lbs.
1854	Beans	5½ bush.	1045 lbs.	1443 lbs.	5½ bush.	1103 lbs.	1534 lbs.	9½ bush.	1355 lbs.	2065 lbs.
1855	Wheat	35½ bush.	3619 lbs.	5859 lbs.	35½ bush.	3523 lbs.	5789 lbs.	37½ bush.	3942 lbs.	6371 lbs.
3RD COURSE, 1856-59.										
1856	Swedish Turnips	32 cwt.	2½ cwt.	34½ cwt.	136 cwt.	7½ cwt.	14½ cwt.	333½ cwt.	12½ cwt.	346½ cwt.
1857	Barley	48½ bush.	2600 lbs.	533½ lbs.	28½ bush.	1475 lbs.	3076 lbs.	44 bush.	2455 lbs.	5163 lbs.
1858	Beans	6½ bush.	1100 lbs.	1513 lbs.	6½ bush.	1153 lbs.	1605 lbs.	12½ bush.	1320 lbs.	2357 lbs.
1859	Wheat	35½ bush.	4030 lbs.	6282 lbs.	34½ bush.	3030 lbs.	6120 lbs.	39½ bush.	4610 lbs.	7154 lbs.
4TH COURSE, 1860-63.										
1860	Swedish Turnips	1 cwt.	6½ lb.	1 cwt.	29½ cwt.	14 cwt.	30½ cwt.	87½ cwt.	34 cwt.	90½ cwt.
1861	Barley	38½ bush.	2522 lbs.	4712 lbs.	30½ bush.	2000 lbs.	3775 lbs.	60½ bush.	3920 lbs.	7391 lbs.
1862	Beans	29 bush.	1840 lbs.	3661 lbs.	29½ bush.	2150 lbs.	4040 lbs.	4½ bush.	3280 lbs.	5990 lbs.
1863	Wheat	44½ bush.	3467 lbs.	6350 lbs.	34½ bush.	3390 lbs.	5619 lbs.	46½ bush.	4697 lbs.	7636 lbs.
5TH COURSE, 1864-67.										
1864	Swedish Turnips	8½ cwt.	0½ cwt.	9½ cwt.	68 cwt.	4½ cwt.	72½ cwt.	176½ cwt.	84 cwt.	185 cwt.
1865	Barley	39 bush.	2154 lbs.	4182 lbs.	33½ bush.	1615 lbs.	3394 lbs.	47½ bush.	2595 lbs.	5148 lbs.
1866	Beans	10½ bush.	1013 lbs.	1689 lbs.	7½ bush.	978 lbs.	1463 lbs.	20½ bush.	1990 lbs.	3343 lbs.
1867	Wheat	21 bush.	2143 lbs.	3473 lbs.	19½ bush.	1866 lbs.	3222 lbs.	23½ bush.	3003 lbs.	4567 lbs.
6TH COURSE, 1868-71.										
1868	Swedish Turnips	Failed, and ploughed up.			Failed, and ploughed up.			Failed, and ploughed up.		
1869	Barley	24½ bush.	1949 lbs.	3358 lbs.	28½ bush.	2023 lbs.	3686 lbs.	42½ bush.	3309 lbs.	5900 lbs.
1870	Beans	13½ bush.	738 lbs.	1591 lbs.	15½ bush.	768 lbs.	1778 lbs.	24½ bush.	1036 lbs.	2664 lbs.
1871	Wheat	20½ bush.	2799 lbs.	4092 lbs.	20½ bush.	3048 lbs.	4521 lbs.	23 bush.	3440 lbs.	4853 lbs.
7TH COURSE, 1872-75.										
1872	Swedish Turnips	34½ cwt.	8½ cwt.	42½ cwt.	170½ cwt.	17½ cwt.	183 cwt.	339½ cwt.	35½ cwt.	375½ cwt.
1873	Barley	22½ bush.	1343 lbs.	2717 lbs.	20½ bush.	1563 lbs.	2875 lbs.	31½ bush.	1723 lbs.	3573 lbs.
1874	Clover	..	..	31½ cwt.	..	..	52½ cwt.	..	..	84½ cwt.
1875	Wheat	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

SUMMARY—AVERAGE OF THE FIRST 6 COURSES, 1848-1871.

1848, '52, '56, '60, '64	Swedish Turnips	26½ cwt.	10½ cwt.	37½ cwt.	136½ cwt.	28 cwt.	164½ cwt.	242½ cwt.	42½ cwt.	285 cwt.
1849, '53, '57, '61, '65, '69	Barley	38½ bush.	2440 lbs.	4619 lbs.	30 bush.	1850 lbs.	3555 lbs.	44½ bush.	2329 lbs.	5362 lbs.
1850, '54, '58, '62, '66, '70	Clover, 1850 (calc <sup>d</sup> . as hay)	..	..	54 cwt.	..	..	57½ cwt.	..	..	63 cwt.
1851, '55, '59, '63, '67, '71	Beans	12½ bush.	1149 lbs.	1990 lbs.	13 bush.	1231 lbs.	2084 lbs.	22½ bush.	1840 lbs.	3284 lbs.
	Wheat	30½ bush.	3248 lbs.	5233 lbs.	29½ bush.	3205 lbs.	5087 lbs.	33½ bush.	3874 lbs.	6017 lbs.

(1) First Course—100 lbs. Bone-ash, and 100 lbs. Sulphuric Acid (sp. gr. 1.7); Second Course—160 lbs. Bone-ash, 120 lbs. Sulphuric Acid; Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Courses—200 lbs. Bone-ash, and 150 lbs. Sulphuric Acid, per acre.

(2) First Course—100 lbs. Pearl-ash, 100 lbs. Bone-ash, 100 lbs. Sulphuric Acid, 100 lbs. Sulphate of Ammonia, 100 lbs. Muriate of Ammonia, and 1000 lbs. Rape-Cake; Second Course—300 lbs. Sulphate of Potass, 100 lbs. Sulphate of Soda, 100 lbs. Sulphate of Magnesia, 160 lbs. Bone-ash, 120 lbs. Sulphuric Acid, 100 lbs. Sulphate of Ammonia, 100 lbs. Muriate

of Ammonia, and 2000 lbs. Rape-cake; Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Courses—300 lbs. Sulphate of Potass, 200 lbs. Sulphate of Soda, 100 lbs. Sulphate of Magnesia, 200 lbs. Bone-ash, 150 lbs. Sulphuric Acid, 100 lbs. Sulphate of Ammonia, 100 lbs. Muriate of Ammonia, and 2000 lbs. Rape-cake, per acre.

(3) The quantities given in Bushels represent the Dressed Corn only.

(4) The "Total Produce" of the Corn-crops includes Dressed Corn, Offal Corn, and Total Straw.

EXPERIMENTS WITH DIFFERENT DESCRIPTIONS OF WHEAT, IN 1875; AND SUMMARY OF RESULTS OBTAINED IN PREVIOUS YEARS.

	DRESSED CORN PER ACRE.					WEIGHT PER BUSHEL.								
	1871;	1872;	1873;	1874;	1875;	1876;	Average.	1871;	1872;	1873;	1874;	1875;	1876;	Average.
Season 1875.														
LITTLE KNOTT WOOD FIELD.														
1 1/2 Cwt. Nitrate Soda;														
after														
Mangolds with Dung 1874,														
Carted off.														
	1871;	1872;	1873;	1874;	1875;	1876;	Average.	1871;	1872;	1873;	1874;	1875;	1876;	Average.
1. White-chaff (Red) ... ..	.. ..	.. ..	40 1/2	55 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	47 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	58 1/2	61 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	60
2. Rvett's (Red) ... ..	.. ..	.. ..	48 1/2	67	.. ..	.. ..	57 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	57 1/2	58 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	57 1/2
3. Chubb Wheat (Red) ... ..	28 1/2	40	35 1/2	50 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	38 1/2	60 1/2	61 1/2	59 1/2	61 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	60 1/2
4. Red-chaff (White) ... ..	32 1/2	37	35 1/2	48 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	38 1/2	61 1/2	62 1/2	60 1/2	61 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	61 1/2
5. Browick (Red) ... ..	35 1/2	40 1/2	38 1/2	51 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	41 1/2	60	61 1/2	59 1/2	61 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	60 1/2
6. Red Wonder ... ..	31 1/2	43 1/2	37 1/2	55 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	42	59	60 1/2	60	62 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	62 1/2
7. Burwell (Old Red Leumas) ..	31 1/2	41 1/2	35 1/2	47 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	38 1/2	62	63	61 1/2	63 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	61 1/2
8. Bristol Red ... ..	29 1/2	44 1/2	39 1/2	53 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	41 1/2	60 1/2	61 1/2	60 1/2	61 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	61 1/2
9. Red Nursery ... ..	34 1/2	45 1/2	27 1/2	41 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	36 1/2	63	65	62	65 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	63 1/2
10. Red Langham ... ..	30 1/2	43 1/2	34 1/2	58 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	40 1/2	60 1/2	61 1/2	60 1/2	63	.. ..	.. ..	61 1/2
11. Woolly Ear (White) ... ..	31 1/2	42 1/2	37	51 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	40 1/2	61 1/2	62 1/2	61 1/2	62 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	61 1/2
12. Hardcastle (White) ... ..	.. ..	46 1/2	42	49 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	46	.. ..	61 1/2	59 1/2	63	.. ..	.. ..	61 1/2
13. Golden Drop (Red), Hallett's	39 1/2	49 1/2	44 1/2	51 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	46 1/2	61 1/2	63	59 1/2	63	.. ..	.. ..	61 1/2
14. Victoria White, Hallett's ..	33 1/2	45 1/2	38 1/2	44 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	40 1/2	61	62 1/2	59 1/2	62 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	61 1/2
15. Hunter's White, Hallett's ..	26 1/2	39 1/2	38 1/2	45 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	37 1/2	59 1/2	61 1/2	57 1/2	61 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	59 1/2
16. Original Red, Hallett's ..	30	35 1/2	36 1/2	43 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	36 1/2	58 1/2	60	50 1/2	60 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	58 1/2
17. White Chiddam ... ..	26 1/2	38 1/2	31 1/2	42	.. ..	.. ..	34 1/2	62 1/2	63	59 1/2	62 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	61 1/2
18. Red Restook ... ..	37	.. ..	46 1/2	53 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	45 1/2	60 1/2	.. ..	56 1/2	59 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	58 1/2
19. Casey's White ... ..	29 1/2	42 1/2	37 1/2	52 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	40 1/2	60 1/2	61 1/2	58 1/2	60 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	60 1/2
20. Golden Rough-chaff (Red) ..	33	39 1/2	38 1/2	52 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	40 1/2	61 1/2	62 1/2	59 1/2	62 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	61 1/2
21. Bole's Prolific (Red) ... ..	33 1/2	42 1/2	45 1/2	48 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	42 1/2	61 1/2	62 1/2	57 1/2	62	.. ..	.. ..	60 1/2
22. Club Wheat (Red) ... ..	36	45 1/2	47 1/2	59 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	47 1/2	60 1/2	61 1/2	58 1/2	61 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	60 1/2
23. Stimson's White ... ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
24. Australian Wheat (White) ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Mean .. ..	32 1/2	42 1/2	38 1/2	50 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	41 1/2	60 1/2	62 1/2	59 1/2	61 1/2	.. ..	.. ..	60 1/2

EXPERIMENTS WITH A VIEW TO ECONOMY IN THE USE OF EXPENSIVE NITROGENOUS MANURES.

It is found that generally less than half the nitrogen supplied in such manures as guano, ammonia-salts, or nitrate of soda, is recovered in the increase of the crop for which they are used; that a considerable quantity may remain in the soil in a comparatively inactive state, yielding increase very slowly; and that a considerable quantity may be carried away by drainage, and lost. It seemed desirable, therefore, to commence a series of

experiments to determine whether any saving can be effected by applying comparatively small quantities near to the seed, instead of larger amounts in the usual mode of broadcast sowing and harrowing-in.

It is also intended to make experiments with a view to ascertain the best periods of the year for the application of such manures to different crops.

FIRST SEASON, 1871.—Experiments upon Wheat. Little Hoos Field. Plots  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre each.

PLOT No.	MANURES PER ACRE, &c.	PRODUCE PER ACRE.		
		Dressed Corn.		Total Straw.
		Quantity.	Weight per Bushel.	
1	Unmanured. Seed 1 bushel, dibbled 6 inches apart in the rows .. .. .	Bushels. 23 $\frac{1}{2}$	lbs. 59.3	cwts. 24 $\frac{1}{2}$
2	{146 lbs. Sulphate Ammonia (containing Nitrogen = 15 bushels grain, and its straw). Seed 1 bushel; .. } {Holes dibbled 6 inches apart in the rows; manure (mixed with Ashes) put in, and seed above .. .. }	31 $\frac{1}{2}$	59.1	36 $\frac{1}{2}$
3	{292 lbs. Sulphate Ammonia. Seed 1 bushel; .. .. . } {Manure (mixed with Ashes) sown broadcast, seed dibbled 6 inches apart in the rows } .. .. .	28 $\frac{3}{4}$	58.3	35 $\frac{1}{2}$

FIRST SEASON, 1871.—Experiments upon Barley. Thirty-acres Field. Plots  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre each.

1	Unmanured. Seed 3 bushels; drilled .. .. .	Bushels. 40 $\frac{1}{2}$	lbs. 53.9	cwts. 24 $\frac{1}{2}$
2	{1 cwt. Superphosphate, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda. Seed 3 bushels; } {Manures mixed with Ashes and sown broadcast; seed drilled .. .. }	49 $\frac{1}{2}$	53.3	30 $\frac{1}{2}$
3	{1 cwt. Superphosphate, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda. Seed 3 bushels; .. } {Manures mixed with Ashes and drilled; seed drilled above .. .. }	49 $\frac{1}{2}$	53.4	28 $\frac{1}{2}$
4	{1 cwt. Superphosphate, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda. Seed 3 bushels; } {Manures, Ashes, and Seed mixed, and drilled together .. .. }	51	53.0	30 $\frac{3}{4}$
5	{1 cwt. Superphosphate, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda. Seed 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel; } {Holes dibbled, 6 inches apart in the rows; Manures (mixed with Ashes) put in, and Seed above } .. .. }	51 $\frac{1}{4}$	53.3	28 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	{2 cwt. Superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda. Seed 3 bushels; } {Manures mixed with Ashes and sown broadcast; seed drilled } .. .. .	56 $\frac{1}{4}$	51.6	32 $\frac{1}{2}$

SECOND SEASON, 1872.—Experiments upon Barley. Thirty-acres Field. Plots  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre each.

1	Unmanured. Seed 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels, drilled .. .. .	Bushels. 33 $\frac{1}{2}$	lbs. 54.4	cwts. 19 $\frac{1}{2}$
2	{3 cwt. Superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda. Seed 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels; .. } {Manures made up to 15 bushels per acre with Ashes, and sown broadcast; seed drilled .. .. }	46 $\frac{1}{2}$	54.1	30 $\frac{1}{2}$
3	{3 cwt. Superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda. Seed 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels; .. } {The Superphosphate mixed with 40 lbs. slaked Lime to neutralize the acid, the Nitrate added, and the whole made up to 15 bushels per acre with Ashes, and sown broadcast; Seed drilled .. .. }	47 $\frac{1}{2}$	53.6	31 $\frac{1}{2}$
4	{1 cwt. Superphosphate, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda. Seed 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels; } {Manures and Seed made up to 15 bushels per acre with Ashes, and the whole (Manure, Seed, and Ashes) drilled together .. .. }	42 $\frac{1}{2}$	54.1	26 $\frac{1}{2}$
5	{1 cwt. Superphosphate, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda. Seed 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels; } {Manures and Seed made up to 15 bushels per acre with a mixture of half Lime and half Ashes, and the whole (Manure, Seed, Lime, and Ashes) drilled together .. .. }	43 $\frac{1}{2}$	53.1	27

THIRD SEASON, 1873.

Some experiments were conducted in which a given quantity of Nitrate of Soda (generally at the rate of 1 cwt. per acre) was, by means of plaster of Paris, and other substances, made to adhere to the seed, forming a coating upon it. Experiments in pots, well watered and kept in a greenhouse, showed that barley so coated germinated well, and gave strong and healthy plants; but owing to the wetness of the weather previously, to the consequent lateness of sowing, and to the scarcity of rain afterwards, the coated seeds sown in the field came up so irregularly, that it was considered not worth while to keep the crop separate at harvest. Even if it had not been so, there are practical difficulties in the way of so preparing the seed, which might render the method inapplicable in ordinary practice.

FOURTH SEASON, 1874.—Experiments upon Barley. Barn Field. Plots  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre each.

PLOT No.	MANURES PER ACRE, &c.	PRODUCE PER ACRE.		
		Dressed Corn.		Total Straw.
		Quantity.	Weight per Bushel.	
1	Unmanured. Seed 2 bushels, dibbled 6 inches apart in the rows .. .. .	Bushels. 39	lbs. 55.2	cwts. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$
2	{1 cwt. Superphosphate, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda, 2 cwt. Ashes; Seed 2 bushels; .. } {All mixed, made into a paste with water, and dibbled 6 inches apart in the rows } .. .. .	47	55.5	24 $\frac{1}{2}$
3	{1 cwt. Superphosphate, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda, 80 lbs. slaked Lime; Seed 2 bushels } {All mixed, and dibbled 6 inches apart in the rows .. .. . }	47 $\frac{1}{2}$	55.6	24 $\frac{1}{2}$
4	{1 cwt. Superphosphate, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda, 2 cwt. Ashes; Seed 2 bushels; .. } {Manures mixed and sown broadcast; Seed drilled .. .. . }	54 $\frac{3}{4}$	56.3	25 $\frac{3}{4}$

ROTHAMSTED

MAY,

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF THE PRESENT AND PREVIOUS

(13 Years, 1863-1875,

PREVIOUS CROPPING

Name of Field.	Acres.	PREVIOUS CROPPING						
		1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.
Thirty Acres	30	Wheat, Sheep-Folded, and 2 cwt. Guano.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Corn Manure.	Oats, 1 cwt. Guano, 3 cwt. Corn Manure.	Tares and Swedes, Dung and Artificial.	Oats, after Sheep-Folding.	Clover.	Wheat, 2 cwt. Guano.
Upper Harpenden	14	Red Clover, Unmanured.	Wheat, 1½ cwt. Guano, 1½ cwt. Corn Manure.	Oats, 1 cwt. Guano, 2 cwt. Corn Manure.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Sulph. Ammonia.	Tares, Dung, Swedes, Artificial.	Wheat, ¾ ths. 2½ cwt. Guano, ¼ th. Sheep-folded.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. dried Blood, ½ cwt. Sulph. Ammonia.
Harpenden	22	Oats, 3 cwt. Guano.	Mangolds and Turnips, Dung and Artificial.	Wheat, Sheep-Folded.	Red Clover (peren.), Unmanured.	Wheat, 2½ cwt. Guano.	Oats, (2 cwt. Guano, & 1 cwt. Nitr. Soda. 1 rd. 1 cwt. Nitr. Soda. and Sheep-folded.	Swedes, Dung and various Artificial Manures.
Little Hoos	9	Barley, 3 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. superphos.	Red Clover.	Wheat, 1½ cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda, 1 cwt. Corn Manure.	Mangolds, Dung and Artificial.	Wheat, Unmanured.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Nitrate of Soda.	Barley, 1 cwt. dried Blood, ½ cwt. Sulph. Ammonia, 1 cwt. superphosphate.
Fosters'	18	Barley, 5½ cwt. Artificial Manure.	Swedes, Dung and Artificial.	Oats, 1 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Corn Manure.	Red Clover, Unmanured.	Wheat, 2 cwt. Guano, ½ cwt. Corn Manure.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Nitrate of Soda.	Barley, 1 cwt. dried Blood, ½ cwt. Sulph. Ammonia, 1 cwt. superphosphate.
Knott Wood	30	Oats, Sheep-Folded.	Red Clover (peren.).	Wheat, Sheep-Folded, 1 cwt. Guano.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Sulph. Ammonia.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Sulph. Ammonia.	Swedes, 2 cwt. Guano, 2½ cwt. superphosphate and Dung.	Wheat, 3 cwt. Guano (one-half), Unmanured (one-half), after Swedes ploughed up and Fallowed.
Little Knott Wood	14	Swedes, Dung and Artificial.	Wheat, Unmanured.	Red Clover (peren.), Unmanured.	Red Clover (peren.), Sheep-Folded.	Wheat, 1 cwt. Guano, ½ cwt. Corn Manure.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Mangolds, 12 tons Dung, 3 cwt. Guano.
Sawpit	14	Tares and Oats, Sheep-Folded, and 2 cwt. Guano.	Barley, 1½ cwt. Guano, ½ cwt. superphos., 1 cwt. Corn Manure.	Mangolds and Turnips, Dung and Artificial.	Wheat, Unmanured.	Red Clover, Unmanured.	Wheat, 1 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Wheat Manure.	Wheat, 3 cwt. Guano.
Rick-yard	8	Wheat, Unmanured.	Wheat, Sheep-Folded, and 3 cwt. Guano.	Barley, 2 cwt. Guano, 1½ cwt. Corn Manure.	Red Clover, Sheep-Folded.	Wheat, Guano.	Barley, 2 cwt. Wheat Manure.	Tares, Dung.
Six Acres	6	Mangolds, Dung and Artificial.	Wheat, Unmanured.	Red Clover, Unmanured.	Wheat, 2 cwt. Guano, 2 cwt. Corn Manure.	Oats, 3 cwt. Guano.	Beans, Dung.	Wheat, 2 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Nitrate of Soda.
Clay-Croft	12	Wheat, Dung.	Wheat, 2 cwt. Guano, 2 cwt. Corn Manure.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 2 cwt. Corn Manure.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Sulph. Ammonia.	Beans, Dung.	Wheat, 2 cwt. Guano.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. dried Blood, ½ cwt. Sulph. Ammonia.
Ten Acres	10	Oats, 3 cwt. Guano.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Dried Blood.	Tares, Dung.	Turnips, Artificial.	Wheat, Guano.	Red Clover.	Wheat, 2 cwt. Guano.
Agdell	9	Barley, Sheep-Folded.	Barley, 1½ cwt. Guano, ½ cwt. superphos., 1 cwt. Corn Manure.	Red Clover, Unmanured.	Wheat, 1½ cwt. Guano, 1½ cwt. Corn Manure.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano.	Tares, Dung.	Barley, Unmanured.
Long Hoos	25	Fallow.	Swedes, Dung and Artificial.	Barley, 1 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Corn Manure.	Barley, 1½ cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Corn Manure.	Mangolds and Swedes, 15 tons Dung, 3 cwt. Guano.	Wheat, 1 cwt. Guano.	Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. dried Blood, ½ cwt. Sulph. Ammonia.
Sawyers'	25	Swedes and Fallow, Artificial.	Barley, 1 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Corn Manure.	Swedes, Dung and Artificial.	Wheat and Barley, Sheep-Folded.	Red Clover, Unmanured.	Wheat, 3 cwt. Guano.	Fallow.
West Barn	32	Swedes, Dung and Artificial.	Oats, 1½ cwt. Guano, 1½ cwt. Corn Manure.	Red Clover (peren.), Sheep-Folded.	Wheat, 1½ cwt. Guano, 1½ cwt. Corn Manure.	Barley, 1 cwt. Blood Manure, 1 cwt. superphosphate, 1 cwt. Sulph. Ammonia.	Fallow.	Wheat, 3 cwt. Guano.

FARM.

1875.

CROPPING, &c., OF THE ARABLE LAND NOT UNDER EXPERIMENT.  
inclusive.)

AND MANURING.

1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	Crop, &c., Present Season, 1874-75.	Acres.	Name of Field.
Oats, 2 cwt. Guano.	Barley, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda, (2½ acres experiment).	Barley (¾ with Grass-seeds). 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Grass (¾), Folded, and 1 cwt. Nitrate. Barley (¾), 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Grass (¾), Sheep-folded. Tares (¾) Dung.	30	Thirty Acres
Swedes, Dung and superphosphate.	Wheat, 2 cwt. Guano.	Oats, 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Mangolds, Dung. (Carted off.)	Wheat (10 acres Varieties). 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, (¾) 3 cwt. Guano, (¾) 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.		
Wheat, 3 cwt. Guano.	Oats, 3 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda. Tares, Dung.	Oats, 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, After Oats—2 cwt. superphosphate; 2 cwt. Nitrate. After Tares—1 cwt. superphosphate; 1 cwt. Nitrate.	Barley, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Mangolds, Dung, and 2 cwt. Guano.	22	Harpenden.
Barley, 2½ cwt. Guano.	Barley, 3 cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley (with Clover). 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley (¾), Unmanured. Clover (¾), Unmanured.	Barley, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda (1 acre Unmanured).	Barley, where Barley 1873, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda, where Clover 1873, Half quantities.		
Oats, 2 cwt. Guano, 3 cwt. Blood Manure.	Roots, Tares, and Rape, Dung and Artificial.	Wheat, ½ Varieties of Wheat, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda, ¾ Sheep-folded.	Barley, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda (2 acres experiment).	Barley, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, (¾) 3½ cwt. Guano, (¾) 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda, (¾) 1½ cwt. Guano, 1½ Nitrate.	18	Fosters'.
Oats, 3 cwt. Guano.	Oats, 3 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Oats, 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Tares (¾), Dung. Swedes (¾), Dung, 2 cwt. superphosph.; 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, After Roots and Tares carted. 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda, After Tares fed, 1 cwt. each.	Barley, 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.		
Wheat, 3 cwt. Guano.	Oats, 3 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Oats, ¾ Sheep-folded. All, 2½ cwt. superphosph., 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Mangolds, Dung. (Carted off.)	Wheat (Varieties). 1½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	14	Little Knott Wood.
Mangolds, Dung and 3 cwt. Guano.	Wheat, 3 cwt. Guano.	Oats, 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Oats, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.		
Barley, 1 cwt. Guano.	Mangolds, Dung and 4 cwt. Cotton Cake.	Wheat, Unmanured.	Barley, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Tares, Dung. ½ followed by Turnips, 1 cwt. superphosphate, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	8	Rick-yard.
Barley, 2½ cwt. Guano.	Barley, 3 cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.		
Turnips, Dung and 3 cwt. superphosphate.	Wheat, Unmanured.	Oats, 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Clover, Unmanured.	Wheat, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Oats, 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	12	Clay-Croft.
Oats, 3 cwt. Guano.	Mangolds, Dung and 4 cwt. Cotton Cake.	Wheat, Unmanured.	Barley, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda (5 acres experiment).	Oats, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Oats, 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.		
Barley, 1½ cwt. Guano, 1½ cwt. superphosphate.	Mangolds, Dung and 4 cwt. Cotton Cake.	Wheat, Unmanured (and part Roots).	Clover, Unmanured. Barley, Experiment.	Wheat, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda (3 acres Experiment, ½ Clover, ½ Fallow).	Barley, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda. Wheat, 3 acres, Experiment.	9	Agdell.
Sainfoin, Unmanured.	Sainfoin, Unmanured. (Steam cultivated, July.)	Mangolds, Dung. (Carted off.)	Wheat. (½ Varieties of Wheat), 1½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Oats, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Oats, 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.		
Wheat, 4 cwt. Guano.	Wheat, 4 cwt. Guano, 1 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Barley, 2½ cwt. superphosphate, 2½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Oats, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Mangolds and Swedes, Dung.	Barley after Swedes (¾) 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda. Wheat after Mangolds (¾) 1½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	25	Sawyers'.
Sainfoin, Unmanured.	Sainfoin, Unmanured.	Sainfoin, Unmanured.	Oats, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Wheat (Oats fed off 1873), 1½ cwt. Nitrate Soda.	Oats, 2 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. Nitrate Soda.		