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Yields of the Field Experiments 1953



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53/BE/1 Ley and Arable Rotations - Woburn

Rothamsted Research

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LEY AND ARABLE ROTATIONS

Woburn Stackyard - 1953, the 16th year.

For details of rotations and treatments etc., see "Results of Field Experiments" 1939-47 Vol.I, Section Bf/1, with the exception that in 1949 and subsequently Rye replaced Wheat.

Cultivations, etc.:

Treatment crops

Ley rotations

Ley 1st year. Ploughed: Aug 26, 1952 and Nov 24. Basal fertilizers applied: Apr 1, 1953. Seeds sown: Apr 9. Grazed by sheep: 5 circuits - June 25-July 3, July 19-27, Aug 12-19, Sept 7-15 and Oct 6-14. Seeds mixture, 21 lb S24 Perennial Ryegrass, 12 lb S143 Cocksfoot, 6 lb Aberystwyth S123 Red Clover, 3 lb S100 White Clover per acre.

Ley 2nd year. Nitrochalk applied: June 4, 1953. Grazed by sheep: 6 circuits - May 11-19, June 9-17, July 3-11, July 27-Aug 4, Aug 19-27 and Sept 15-23.

Ley 3rd year. Nitrochalk applied: June 26, 1953. Grazed by sheep: 7 circuits - May 19-27, June 1-9, 17-25, July 11-19, Aug 4-12, Aug 27-Sept 7 and Sept 23-Oct 5.

Lucerne 1st year. Ploughed: Aug 26, 1952 and Nov 24. Basal fertilizers applied: Apr 1, 1953. Seed drilled at 28 lb per acre: Apr 9. Dusted with DDT: May 5 and again May 7. Cut twice: Aug 5 and Oct 28. Variety: Du Puits.

Lucerne 2nd year. Cut three times: June 24, 1953, Aug 5 and Oct 28.

Lucerne 3rd year. Cut three times: June 24, 1953, Aug 5 and Oct 28.

Arable rotations

Potatoes 1st course. Ploughed: Aug 26, 1952 and Nov 24.
Ridged, basal fertilizers applied, potatoes planted:
Apr 1, 1953. Earthed up: June 17. Sprayed with sulphuric acid, 15% B.O.V.: Sept 17. Lifted: Sept 23. Variety:
Majestic.

Rye 2nd course. Cultivated: Oct 8, 1952. Seed drilled at 3 bushels per acre: Oct 11. Nitrochalk applied: Apr 23,1953. Harvested: Aug 13. Variety: King II.

Hay 3rd course. Seeds undersown in rye: Apr 17, 1952. 2 cwt nitrochalk per acre applied: Mar 30, 1953. First cut: June 16. 1 cwt nitrochalk per acre applied: June 17. Second cut: Aug 20. Seeds mixture, 27 lb S24 Perennial Ryegrass, 12 lb Montgomery Red Clover, 3 lb Canadian Alsike Clover per acre.

Sugar beet 3rd course. Ploughed: Aug 20, 1952 and Nov 24.
Nitrate of soda applied: Mar 20, 1953. Seed drilled at
18 lb per acre: Mar 24. Singled: May 28. Lifted: Oct 21.
Variety: Klein E.

Test Crops

Potatoes 1st test crop. Ploughed: Nov 10, 1952. Cultivated:
Mar 25, 1953. Ridged, dung and basal fertilizers applied,
potatoes planted: Apr 14. Earthed up: June 20. Sprayed with
sulphuric acid 15/2 B.O.V.: Sept 17. Lifted: Sept 24. Variety:
Majestic.

Barley 2nd test crop. Ploughed: Nov 10, 1952. 22 cwt ground chalk per acre applied: Feb 25, 1953. Nitrochalk applied, seed drilled at 3 bushels per acre: Mar 5. Harvested: Aug 13. Variety: Plumage Archer.

Standard errors per plot, Test crops:

Potatoes, Total tubers, whole plot: 1.772 tons per acre or 12.9% (4 d.f.)

sub plot: 0.739 tons per acre or 5.4% (4 d.f.)

Barley, Grain,

whole plot: 1.067 cwt per acre or 3.9%

(4 d.f.) sub plot: 0.766 cwt per acre or 2.8% (4 d.f.)

Summary of Results

Treatment crops

Ley, Sheep d	lays of grazi	ng per acre		
1st year	2nd year	3rd year		
1513	1647	2134		

Lucerne, yield of hay (at 85% D.M.): cwt per acre

	1st crop 2nd crop		3rd crop	Total	
1st year			'		
No Dung Dung in 1951 Increase	21.2 24.5 +3.3	16.2 19.6 +3.4	Control of the Contro	37·4 44·1 +6·7	
Previous Rotation Lucerne Arable with Sugar	26.5	16.8		43.3	
beet	19.2	19.0		38.2	
Mean	22.8	17.9		40.7	

Treatment crops

		-101-			
Lucerne, yield of hay (at 85% D.M.): cwt per acre					
	1st crop	2nd crop	3rd crop	Total	
2nd year					
No Dung Dung in 1950 Increase	32.3 49.6 +17.3	26.1 38.8 +12.7	16.1 18.0 +1.9	74.5 106.4 +31.9	
Previous Rotation Lucerne Arable with Hay	42.6 39.3	31.8 33.1	17.9 16.2	92 . 3 88 . 6	
Mean	41.0	32.4	17.0	90.4	
3rd year					
No Dung Dung in 1949 Increase	37.7 41.5 +3.8	28.3 28.9 +0.6	17.8 16.1 -1.7	83.8 86.5 +2.7	
Previous Rotation Lucerne Arable with Sugar b	34•5 44•7	26.3 30.9	17.6 16.3	78 . 4 91 . 9	
Mean	39.6	28.6	17.0	85.2	
	Total			Rye	
	tubers: tons per acre	Percentage ware	Grain: cwt per	Straw:	
No Dung Dung Increase	11 .2 7 13 . 93 +2 . 66	92•3 93•2 +0•9	26.6 25.7 -0.9	33.6 35.7 +2.1	
Previous Rotation Ley Lucerne Arable with Hay Arable with Sugar b	14.11 12.64 12.36 eet 11.28	94.0 92.1 91.6 93.2	25•9 27•1 25•6 25•9	33.5 36.3 32.8 36.0	
Mean	12.60	92.8	26.2	34.6	

^{*}Dung applied: Potatoes:- 1951. Rye:- 1950.

9.66

10.17

9.92

Treatment crops

Hay

Vield (at 850 D M).

	Yield (at 85% D.M.): cwt per acre				
	1st crop	2nd crop	Total		
No Dung Dung in 1949 Increase	51. 7 59.6 +7.9	18.3 20.2 +1.9	70.0 79.8 +9.8		
Previous Rotation Ley Arable with Hay	58.6 52.7	22 . 2 16 . 3	80.8		
Mean	55.6	19.2	74.8		
	Beet				
	Roots (washed): tons per acre	Sugar percentage	Total sugar: cwt per acre	Tops: tons per acre	
No Dung Dung in 1949 Increase	14.68 14.94 +0.26	17.22 17.70 +0.48	50.6 52.9 +2.3	10.34 9.48 -0.86	

13.62 16.00

14.81

17.57 47.8 17.36 55.6

17.46

47.8

51.7

Previous Rotation

Arable with Sugar beet

Lucerne

Mean

	Test crops			53/Be/1.5		
			Previous	Rotation	Arable	1
				Arable with	with sugar	
		Ley	Lucerne	hay	beet	Mean
	Potatoes,	Total tu	ibers: ton	s per acre		
No Dung Dung in 1953		14.23 16.82	12.85 16.85		9.02 14.16	11.69
Mean Increase	(±1.25) (±0.74)	15.52 2.59	14.85	13.19 5.06	11.58 5.14	13.79 4.19 (±0.37)
	Pot	atoes, Pe	ercentage v	ware		
No Dung Dung in 1953		96.8 97.4	95.2 96.8	90.4 96.1	89 . 1 95 . 8	92.9 96.5
Mean Increase		97 . 1	96.0 1.6	93·3 5·7	92.5 6.7	94•7 3•6
	Barley, Grain: cwt per acre					
No Dung Dung in 1952	(±0.85)#	28.5 31.1	26.1 29.5	25.2 28.6	23.2 27.1	25.8 29.1
Mean Increase	(±0.75) (±0.77)	29.8 2.6	27.8 3.4	26.9 3.4	25 . 2 3 . 9	27.4 3.3 (±0.38)
Barley, Straw: cwt per acre						
No Dung Dung in 1952		33.6 40.2	30.8 38.1	27.9 38.6	26.8	29.8 37.7
Mean Increase		36.9 6.6	34·4 7·3	33·3 10·7	30.5 7.4	33.8 7.9

^{*}for use in comparisons other than vertical.