

for the whole season we had credited the average cow in that association with 10 lb. of fat more than that for which the factory paid. This 10 lb. would be accounted for by the following considerations:—

- (1.) We credited each cow with yield from date of calving, whereas this cow's milk would not be delivered at the factory for three or four days.
- (2.) Our yield for season includes milk fed to calves. The factory return does not.
- (3.) Our return includes milk used by the household and any spilled. The factory return does not.

The variation of 10 lb. of fat would be just about the quantity these items would represent in the average herd, and these figures go to show that the system of cow-testing-association work followed in New Zealand is sufficiently accurate for the purposes of culling inferior cows and selecting the best cows of the herd for breeding purposes. In fact, the system is all right for anything save making records for pure-bred cows—a phase of cow-testing provided for in another way.

GREEN FODDER FOR DAIRY COWS.

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It is an admitted fact that the best returns cannot be obtained from dairy stock except under a liberal system of feeding, and this should be maintained right throughout the lactation-period. Many farmers will acknowledge that they seldom supply all the members of their herd with sufficient feed at all seasons of the year to induce them to provide their maximum flow of milk. The proper feeding of dairy cows is one of the most pressing problems of the day. It is gratifying to know that milk-producers in this country are realizing the necessity for more attention being paid to this matter. Many kinds of fodder are being grown for the purpose. A fodder which is not appreciated as it should be, and one which is in great favour in older-established dairying-countries, is a mixture of oats and peas. There are numerous varieties of oats, some being more suitable than others, for providing a large amount of fodder. It is therefore advisable to select the oat best adapted to the purpose. It is questionable whether a better variety than the Triumph is available for producing green fodder. Grown in conjunction with peas, it provides an ideal food for dairy stock. The Triumph is a strong-growing variety, and produces a great quantity of flag and a strong upright straw. It is, therefore, well adapted for giving the necessary support to the peas, whereas an oat producing fine straw would be useless.