

weed has got too strong a hold any danger of its spreading will be eliminated. A very good example of the value of sheep for controlling the spread of ox-eye has been shown at the Weraroa Experimental Farm, where some time ago this weed threatened to become serious. Judicious grazing with sheep has, however, virtually eliminated this weed from the farm. On dairying-land where ox-eye daisy has been allowed to get the upper hand fairly heavy stocking with sheep will be necessary to control it, and this will lead to a considerable diminution in the feed available for the cows. In such cases it will be necessary to make extra provision for the production of forage to supplement the pastures. In this connection lucerne should play a very important part and provide a cheap fodder. By this means the control of the weed can be accomplished without interfering to any serious extent with the dairying side of the farming operations.

#### EFFECT ON SHEEP COUNTRY.

On sheep-country ox-eye daisy is rarely prevalent. Theoretically it should never be a troublesome weed on such land. In the 1895 report of this Department Kirk writes, "Heavy stocking with sheep will completely eliminate this weed." This is perfectly true, but it is not always practicable to stock sufficiently heavily. This is especially the case where the areas are large and are not sufficiently subdivided to enable the stocking to be properly controlled. In small sheep-paddocks ox-eye should never become in any way a serious weed. It is always desirable to maintain a certain number of sheep on a dairy farm. Their utility is in closely grazing the pastures in order to obtain an even growth, by eating down by the sheep of the patches rejected by the cattle. This implies, however, small paddocks, for the stocking by sheep must be heavy to be effective. The same thing really applies to sheep-country proper, where it is desired to reduce to a minimum those weeds which will be eaten by sheep under compulsion.

#### AGRICULTURAL SEEDS LIKELY TO CONTAIN OX-EYE DAISY.

Ox-eye daisy is very frequently introduced into new localities through the medium of impure seed. It is liable to be present in many kinds of agricultural seeds. The following is a list of those in which it has been found in samples that have been examined: (1) White clover; (2) alsike; (3) birdsfoot trefoil; (4) Boyd's clover; (5) crested dogstail; (6) meadow fescue; (7) timothy; (8) meadow foxtail; (9) yarrow.

In only a single sample of meadow foxtail has ox-eye-daisy seed been found, and as this grass is almost invariably harvested long before the ox-eye seed matures there is only a remote chance of this grass-seed ever containing any seed of the weed. When ox-eye is present in the