

I believe New Zealand is indebted for first proving the value of this plant as a forage crop), the yield of green stuff grown during the twelve months was 218 tons per acre.

From the following table, which applies to one quarter-acre only, it will be seen that the feeding of silver-beet at Belfast equalled the carrying of 1,014 sheep per acre for eighty-four days:—

Feeding.	Dates of Feeding.	Number of Sheep.	Equal to	Quantity of Leaves stripped.
				Tons.
First ..	March 12-22 ..	85	243 sheep per acre for 14 days..	51.72
Second ..	June 30 - July 15	50	214 .. ..	48.22
Third ..	Sept. 2-13 ..	50	171 .. ..	30.00
Fourth ..	Nov. 2-9 ..	50	100 .. ..	27.00
Fifth ..	Dec. 24-31 ..	50	100 .. ..	26.86
Sixth ..	Feb. 25 - Mar. 1	163	186 .. ..	34.20
		Totals ..	1,014 .. ..	218.00

There were three varieties grown—a dark smooth plain-leaved, a very light yellow, and a light curly-leaved plant. Of the three, the first mentioned is the most valuable, from its heavier growth of both leaf and large fleshy stalk, and from its longer abstention from seeding.

## ERADICATION OF WEEDS.

A. H. COCKAYNE.

THE statement is frequently made that the expense necessary to eradicate weeds is often so great that it is impracticable to carry out any effective work. This statement is nearly always made in the case of the control of weeds on permanent pasture, where the great factor in weed-eradication, good cultivation, cannot be taken advantage of. The problem of the control of weeds on such land is therefore one of considerable importance. Any expenditure, no matter how great, provided it returns a good interest on the money spent, cannot be looked upon in any way as a monetary loss to the farmer. Unfortunately, too many farmers destroy weeds merely to keep within the Act rather than as a necessary procedure in the economy of the farm. The work should never be regarded as a necessary evil, but as an investment capable of giving an absolutely certain return, often of very much greater value than the time and money spent upon it, at the same time giving a permanent and truly increased value to the property