

by reason of the better carrying and selling capacity. It may be well to indicate how much can be actually spent with certainty of profit. On land worth £1 an acre containing 10 per cent. of useless plants an expenditure of over 2s. per acre will be fully compensated if these useless plants are suppressed and their place taken by utility plants. Thus for every £1 value of grazing-land containing 10 per cent. of weeds 2s. an acre can be spent with certainty of a profitable investment; that containing 20 per cent. 5s. can be expended; 30 per cent., 8s. 6d.; 40 per cent., 13s.; 50 per cent., £1; 60 per cent., £1 10s.; 70 per cent., £2 6s.; 80 per cent., £5; and 90 per cent., £10. Thus land worth £38 per acre containing 20 per cent. of weeds can have £9 10s. spent on it for weed-suppression, and then show a direct profit, to say nothing of the permanent gain. From the above it can be seen that the control of weeds on high-class land will always be profitable, but their control on very cheap land will depend upon the percentage of ground occupied by them. Where this is large weed-control, even if the land be very cheap, is probably payable. Thus, for example, land worth £2 an acre containing 60 per cent. of tauhinu can have £3 per acre spent with profit in controlling this weed.

These remarks refer very largely to those useless plants the presence of which is nearly always condoned by the farmer on the plea that it will not pay to deal with them. Of course, with regard to extremely noxious and aggressive weeds, the amount that can be spent depends entirely on the loss in the value of the land that would occur were the weeds left in possession.

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With the idea of affording country ministers an opportunity of securing some knowledge of farm work and life, the Agricultural College at Missouri (U.S.A.) has established a short summer course for the clergy.

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The results of the manurial experiments on the swede crop at the Ruakura Farm of Instruction up to the present are extremely puzzling, and certainly not what an agricultural chemist would expect, reports the Manager. One of the most even plots and the cheapest as regards cost of fertilizers received a haphazard mixture of basic slag and basic superphosphate. In every instance where sulphur was added to other manures, at the rate of 1 cwt. per acre, the germination was excellent, and the plots at the present moment have an exceedingly healthy appearance. On the other hand, where sulphur alone was applied to the mangel crop, at the rate of 5 cwt. per acre, the result was not so good as that of the no-manure plot. In the early, late, and subsoil ploughing experiments, which cross the mangel plots, the subsoiling at present shows the best results.