

KIKIKIHI.—Although the weather for April might be characterized as almost perfect, there was a lack of warm rains to aid the autumn-sown grass. Pastures also suffered from high winds and frosts, consequently the dairy-farmer is feeling the result in diminished milk-yields. Hay is being saved in larger quantities than during the last two seasons, and this, combined with a splendid root crop, ensures the future of the backbone of this district, the cow.—*C. E. McPhee.*

THAMES.—Owing to the continued dry weather, matters are looking serious for the dairy-farmers. Although a splendid rain was experienced on the 29th of March, the recent cold weather has retarded all autumn growth, and the winter will be here before there is any chance of recovery. We had rain again on the 14th of this month, and it is raining to-day while writing this, accompanied by a cold east wind. Potatoes just harvested are a good crop and are free from blight.—*George Rigg.*

TE AROHA.—The weather was dry during this month; on the 14th and 26th, however, there were two nice falls of rain, which were most beneficial to pastures and root crops. Owing to the continued drought the ground is still hard and dry, particularly in part of the Bay of Plenty district, where the pastures are looking bad, and unless some good rains come, with some warm weather, matters will be serious for settlers, as in many instances no provision for winter feed has been made.—*J. R. Morris.*

HAMILTON.—Light rains fell on two days during the month of April: these, with heavy mists, kept the pastures green and fresh, although the growth has been checked by three frosts. The root crops are looking well. The land has been, and is, in good order for cultivating for autumn cropping. Stock are looking remarkably well, dairy herds especially so. By reports from other districts, Waikato has been particularly favoured as to weather-conditions, pastures, &c., this season.—*J. Kerr.*

KING-COUNTRY.—April was a dry month, the weather being more like summer in the daytime, with cold nights approaching a frosty temperature. These conditions, whilst being favourable for all late soil-cultivation, have been severe on the pastures, which are now very bare of feed for this time of the year. Young grass and turnips sown on bush burns have also received a check. A warm growing rain would now be very much appreciated throughout the district.—*B. Bayly.*

TAUMARUNUI.—April was a very favourable month, with light rains during the earlier part. Fine days, with a few light frosts at night, have not done any harm. Winter feed is secure. Turnips on bush burns have come away well. Factories are still receiving ample supplies of cream, and are likely to continue getting it for some weeks longer.—*E. T. Hughes.*

OHAKUNE.—The month opened fine, and continued so until the 7th, when light rains occurred accompanied by very cold winds, with snow on the higher levels. This sample of weather again repeated itself on the 14th and 15th, and from this period to the end of the month exceptionally mild weather prevailed. Pastures, according to situation and elevation, were more or less affected by the occurring frosts, present appearances pointing to a hard time for stock on areas overstocked and where provision has not been made for winter feeding. The milk-supply within the month has considerably decreased, and for town distribution the supply is hardly equal to the demand. Oats, where chaffed, have been productive of good samples, particularly so are Gartons, this variety in general being well headed and not overburdened with too much straw. Satisfactory yields of potatoes have been obtained, Gamekeepers and Northern Star appearing more suitable than other varieties to the climatic conditions of the district.—*D. Barry.*

TAHARU.—The weather during April was anything but satisfactory from a farmer's point of view. Owing to the absence of warm rain the pastures are very backward. Stock throughout the district are looking very well indeed.—*A. P. Smith.*

NEW PLYMOUTH.—Owing to a fall of snow on the 5th, which covered the mountain and the tops of the ranges, the weather became much colder. Little rain has fallen during the month, the days being very bright and fine, with an autumnal feeling in the air. The country is looking remarkably well, and feed is plentiful. Some of the turnips are being fed off owing to the bulbs rotting. Mangels are looking well. The autumn-sown grasses and crops are making good growth.—*R. E. Fairfax-Cholmeley.*

STRATFORD.—With the exception of the 7th and 8th, when we had a heavy southerly rain, April was a fine month, with frosty nights and clear bright days. The disease that has broken out in the swede turnips will be a serious thing for the farmers in the district, as the turnip is the main crop for the dairy-farmer. In many cases the farmers have had to turn their cows on to the crops, in order to get some feed before they all rotted. So far, the later crops sown on new ground appear to be clean.—*Austin F. Wilson.*