

HAMILTON.—The weather during May was wet, cold, and boisterous, with occasional frosts, which had a disastrous effect on the pastures. Feed is scarce throughout the district, and turnip crops are being fed off earlier than usual. Stock are still looking well, but owing to scarcity of feed in other districts large numbers of cattle and sheep have been brought into the Waikato, and the prospect of keeping them in good condition until spring is not good.—*J. Kerr.*

TE AWAMUTU.—The fine weather experienced during April was not continued this month. The weather for May was exceptionally stormy and wintry. Cold winds, rain, and frost predominated over occasional fine days. Winter has fairly set in, and stock are already feeling the pinch of bare paddocks. Turnips are good, but the area sown is small, and holders of large mobs of cattle are keenly competing for available supplies. The milking season, which was not up to expectations, is finished.—*C. E. McPhee.*

CAMBRIDGE.—The weather during May was very dry, with just odd showers. Hard frosts prevailed right throughout, and have retarded all growth. Pastures are bare but green. Turnip crops, on the whole, are good, but from present indications farmers will require all their straw and hay to see them through the winter.—*A. A. Clapcott.*

KING-COUNTRY.—May has been a typical winter month for this district, with cold rains and hard frosts. The latter were followed by days of clear sunshine. The rain freshened the pastures, but it promoted very little growth. Turnips sown on new fern land have not been a success, the fern having asserted itself. Swedes grown on well-cultivated old pasture country show the best results, though the size of the roots is below the average. Winter feed will be at a premium before the spring growth appears.—*B. Bayly.*

TAUPO.—The month of May was very dry, with a few showers at intervals. Cold southerly winds and a few frosts have retarded growth generally. Pastures are fairly bare, but green swede crops are, on the whole, looking well.—*H. Allen.*

TAIHAPE.—May was a very rough, cold month. Snow fell at intervals, and was accompanied almost immediately by severe frosts, which completely stopped growth in pastures. The farmers are already complaining, and are anticipating a very severe winter for all classes of stock. They say that they do not remember ever starting a winter before on so little feed. Turnips grown on Waiouru pumice plain are easily the pick of the district.—*A. P. Smith.*

MANGAWEKA.—Old settlers agree that May was one of the coldest months they have ever experienced in this district. Snow fell on several occasions, and was accompanied by a keen biting wind. The frosts, too, were exceptionally keen for so early in the year. Grass is showing signs of the severity of the weather, and stock have suffered a good deal from cold and exposure, and have gone back considerably, especially dairy cattle.—*J. A. Melrose.*

NEW PLYMOUTH.—May was a very cold month. There were several falls of snow on the mountain, and an unusual number of frosts. Rain fell frequently. All stock are looking well. The pastures, owing to the cold and frosts, are getting very short.—*R. E. Fairfax-Cholmeley.*

STRATFORD.—May was a very variable and broken month, with strong southerly winds, very heavy rain, very sharp frosts, and towards the end of the month a few bright days. The rough weather and frosts stopped all growth of pastures, with the result that farmers have had to start on their winter feed sooner than they expected. As a lot of the turnips are diseased, the prospects for wintering stock are not too bright, except for those who are well prepared for it. There are several turnip crops affected with club-root. Already there is a demand for turnips, hay, and grazing.—*A. F. Wilson.*

WANGANUI.—The weather during May was infinite in variety, but generally unsatisfactory from the farmer's view-point. Storms of exceptional fury raged on the 1st, 2nd, 9th, and 20th, the last-mentioned being accompanied by thunder and a deluge of hail which spread a snowlike covering over the countryside. Conditions during the last two months having been inimical to the usual growth of grass, pastures generally are comparatively bare, and the outlook for stockowners who are dependent on natural feed is not encouraging.—*C. Watson.*

FEILDING.—The weather up to the 19th May was cold and wintry, with snow and sleet on the high country. Since that date fine weather with light frosts has been welcomed for working the land and sowing autumn crops; also for lifting potatoes, which have turned out very satisfactorily. From 15 tons to over 20 tons per acre have