

In 1912 the lambs remained on the forage eighteen days, and were weighed at the commencement and termination of the test. In this season's experiment fourteen days were allowed, the lambs being weighed three times during that period.

On the 13th March an even line of long-woolled lambs were selected, and divided into six lots of nineteen each. Each lot was weighed and marked with a distinguishing brand, so that, should the lambs accidentally get mixed, the straying ones could be immediately returned to their respective plots.

Following are the results of the 1912 and 1913 experiments:—

	Silver-beet.	Rape.	Chou Moellier.	Thousand-headed Kale.	Buda Kale.	Lucerne.
1913.						
Weight of 19 lambs—	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
March 13	1,092	1,022	1,071	1,051	1,120	1,108
March 26	1,258	1,171	1,190	1,177	1,190	1,286
Total increased weight ..	166	149	119	126	70	178
Average individual increase	8.73	7.84	6.26	6.63	3.68	9.36
1912.						
Average individual increase	6.40	7.30	2.40	..

The results obtained from the Buda kale are in accordance with the 1912 trial, but the positions of silver-beet and rape have been reversed. Thousand-headed kale and chou moellier are practically equal, while lucerne, which had never been tested for feeding-value at this farm, ranks foremost.

In carrying out experiments of this description it must be recognized that good judgment is essential. The selection of suitable animals requires the aid of an experienced judge of live-stock, and, assuming that selection has been all that could be desired, so many things may occur which discount all previous calculations that it is only by the most careful supervision we may expect to arrive at any approach to accuracy.

WARNING TO PURCHASERS OF BASIC SLAG.

It has recently come under the notice of the Department that low-grade basic slag, containing only about 10 per cent. phosphoric acid, is being imported, the fertilizer being sold in terms of tricalcic phosphate, 22 per cent. This is probably misleading to the purchasers, who may think that they are buying a slag containing 22 per cent. phosphoric acid (anhydride), which would be equal to 48 per cent. of tricalcic phosphate. Importers and purchasers of basic slag are strongly advised to carefully examine their invoice certificates, and, if in any doubt as to the quality of the slag, to have an analysis made, for which a fee of £1 11s. 6d. will be charged.—*B. C. Aston.*