

SUMMARY.

The following is a summary of the kinds, quantities, and values of the various fertilizers imported into New Zealand during the year ended 31st March, 1913:—

Description.	Weight.		Value.	
	Year 1912-13. Tons.	Year 1911-12. Tons.	Year 1912-13. £	Year 1911-12. £
Bonedust	9,281	10,799	60,050	69,032
Broken bones	133	..	766	..
Bone char	527	275	869	922
Blood manure	20	175	130	1,050
Bone phosphate	31	240	109	817
Blood and bone	1,735	635	10,344	3,924
Basic slag	20,133	16,227	66,389	53,067
Superphosphate	32,964	32,567	120,303	119,597
Phosphate, n.o.e.	393	690	1,459	2,587
Guano and rock phosphate	25,033	22,050	65,084	61,622
Bernard's phosphate	502	..	1,598	..
Sulphate of potash	847	796	10,432	9,772
Muriate of potash	23	20	277	234
Nitrate of potash	20	..	241	..
Kainit	2,467	2,187	8,339	7,255
Potash salts	905	916	5,554	5,235
Phonolite	6	..	25	..
Gypsum	4,163	5,494	6,687	7,604
Sulphate of ammonia	439	304	6,962	4,505
Nitrate of soda	364	258	4,164	2,725
Nitrolim (calcium cyanamide)	146	60	1,560	626
Sulphate of iron	25	63	122	217
Potato-fertilizer	150	225	865	1,168
Turnip-fertilizer	75	270	350	1,140
Turnip and grass fertilizer	100	..	520	..
Rape-fertilizer	75	..	360	..
Insecticide fertilizer	30	..	167	..
Non-odoros fertilizer	5	..	78	..
Jadoo	2	..	16	..
Castor meal	7	..	437	..
	100,601		£374,257	

Importations for year ended 31st March, 1912, 94,296 tons, £353,327.

The Government has granted a sum of from £20 to £25 in order to enable experiments in top-dressing to be carried out in the Akitio County, with the object of ascertaining if a remedy can be discovered for osteomalacia, which has been appearing in lambs in that district this season.

RE-VEGETATING EXPERIMENTS IN SOUTH ISLAND.—Included in the varieties recently despatched from Ruakura Farm of Instruction to Central Otago for re-vegetating experiments is a grass commonly known as buck-bare (*Sporobolus argutus*). This is the first time it will be tested under ordinary field conditions in this country. Judging by its hardiness, habit of growth, quantity of feed thrown, resistance to insect and fungoid diseases, there is every probability of its becoming a valuable grass under certain conditions. Frosts at Ruakura Experimental Farm do not affect it, but the heavier frosts in Central Otago may prove too severe for it. As this grass is a native of the lower altitudes of Brazil, it may not prove sufficiently hardy for Central Otago conditions.—A. W. Green.