

cent.; *Poa annua*, 1 per cent.; white clover, 34 per cent.; red clover, 14 per cent.; trefoil, 1 per cent.; weeds, 5 per cent.

It will be interesting to note each year whether there is any variation in the herbage as a result of the top-dressings.

The area of each plot is 2½ acres. The sheep were weighed monthly, or as near monthly as weather-conditions would permit. Wethers were used in the experiment, and several lots were got off fat during the year. The following table shows the results for eleven months only, for the reason that during the twelfth month the plots were chain-harrowed and rested. For the first two months of the experiment the no-manure plot gave a greater gain than any of the manured plots, showing that the manuring, which was carried out a month before the sheep were put on the plots, had some detrimental effect in the initial stage. It should be borne in mind that an experiment of this kind requires to be carried on for several years before reliable deductions can be drawn.

Plot.	Top-dressing applied per Acre.	Cost per Acre.	Live-weight Gains per Acre.	Total Financial Gain per Acre on the Basis of Two-thirds of the Live-weight Gain at 3½d. per Pound.	Loss per Acre by Manuring.	Average Number of Sheep carried per Acre.
		s.	lb.	£ s. d.	s. d.	
1	5 cwt. basic superphosphate	24	853·6	8 6 0	17 11	6
2	5 cwt. basic slag ..	23	853·2	8 5 9	17 2	6
3	No manure	822·8	7 19 11	..	6
4	5 cwt. superphosphate	24	915·2	8 18 0	5 11	6

At the Ruakura Farm of Instruction about 50 acres have recently been sown with the Ruakura rust-resistant oat. The sowing was done under good conditions. A further area will be sown as soon as it is prepared.

At the Ruakura Farm of Instruction 1,600 tons, or something like 3,000 loads, of roots are being carted off or are to be carted off in connection with experimental work at the Farm.

EVERY weed takes the place of a useful plant, and in direct proportion to the number of weeds present is the carrying-capacity of the land reduced.