

At the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, an average of 30 bushels per acre of grain of the grass-pea has been obtained over a series of years. At the same institution in 1909 various leguminous crops yielded per acre green fodder as follows: Harbara soy beans, 9.2 tons; grass-peas, 8.0 tons; Amherst soy beans, 7.6 tons; Shingto soy beans, 7.5 tons; Cloud soy beans, 7.4 tons; hairy vetches, 6.8 tons; Isurumoko soy beans, 6.5 tons; Chernie soy beans, 6.1 tons; and Nuttall soy beans, 6.1 tons.

Over a period of five years ending in 1909, of six varieties of leguminous crops grown at Guelph for green fodder the following gave the greatest yield: Grass-peas, 6.9 tons per acre; Ito San soy beans, 6.8 tons; Early Yellow soy beans, 5.5 tons; and Wonderful cow-peas, 5.2 tons.

For a period of ten years ending in 1910, of four varieties grown in succession for that period at Guelph for the production of green fodder the following average results were obtained: Hairy vetches, 7.4 tons per acre; grass-peas, 7.2 tons; Early Yellow soy beans, 6.9 tons; Wonderful cow-peas, 5.2 tons.

From the above it will be readily seen that the grass-pea, in common with the hairy vetch, is a decidedly desirable crop to grow for soiling purposes. The tests at Moumahaki have fully justified the importation of the grass-pea, and it should prove an acquisition to the dairy-farmer and to the fruitgrower, just as the hairy vetch is a decided boon to the fruit-farmer, particularly, in Canada. But this can only eventuate when steps are taken to raise sufficient seed, and to sell it at a price satisfactory to the farmer and orchardist.

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Mr. J. Beverley, Assistant Plant-breeder, supplies the following particulars regarding the tests with the grass-pea at the Moumahaki Experimental Farm during the past season:—

The tests were made with the seed harvested at Moumahaki in April of last year. Following a crop of early potatoes, seed was sown broadcast at the rate of 1 bushel per acre on the 3rd November, 1915. The crop was cut with a scythe on the 6th January last to facilitate the operation of digging in, while an adjoining plot of hairy vetch has not produced sufficient bulk to make the scythe necessary. A later trial of the pea was made with a similar seeding on the 12th January on a plot of 160 square yards. The illustration shows part of this crop on the 19th May still in flower and vigorous, with a little seed forming. Approximately the grass-pea weighs 5.3 oz. per 1,000 seeds, and it should be sown in October or November if a seed crop is desired.