

equal to 3.2 sheep per acre for the year. The cost of growing the crop, including the rental value of the land during the months occupied by the crop, was not less than £3 per acre, a charge against one sheep of 19s. per annum for food alone. Another paddock of 5 acres 3 roods 7 perches, in pasture during the same months, carried stock in terms of sheep at the rate of 2.5 per acre per annum for the same period. The cost per acre, again including the rental value of the ground for the grazing-period, would not exceed £1 5s., a charge against each sheep of 10s. per annum for grazing. This was the most costly pasture-grazing of any of the grass paddocks on the farm; but, even so, the comparative results are against the growing in this district of a forage crop for grazing during the period specified. A further paddock of 9 acres and 7 perches, in five-year-old lucerne, during the months of September, 1915, to April, 1916, carried and fattened sheep at the rate of six sheep per acre per annum; and from this area during the same months was harvested 9 tons per acre of surface-dry and wilted forage, representing a further carrying-capacity of two sheep per acre for the year. At a moderate estimate of one sheep per acre per annum for the grazing available from May to August inclusive, the total carrying-capacity would amount to nine sheep per acre. The paddock was sown in plots of a number of varieties of lucerne, and if it had all been sown in the Hunter River variety the stock would probably have been increased by two sheep per acre for the year. The cost of this grazing, assuming that lucerne remained good for no more than six years after establishment, would not exceed £2 10s. per acre, or a charge of 5s. 6d. per sheep for one year, while the acreage profit was greatly increased.

From the Ruakura Farm of Instruction one or two interesting examples may also be quoted. A paddock of 20 acres devoted to rape and mustard carried sheep from 1st October, 1915, to 15th March, 1916, at the rate of 4.5 head per acre per annum. The cost of the crop would be about £3, or 13s. 4d. per sheep per annum, and the crop was a very good one. Another paddock adjoining, in old pasture, area  $26\frac{3}{4}$  acres, during the same period carried sheep at the rate of three per acre per annum, at a cost not exceeding 20s. per acre for the period, equal to a charge of 6s. 8d. against each sheep for the year. Other examples might be quoted, all bearing out the same fact that when the increased cost of production is reckoned with stock cannot be profitably maintained on specially grown fodder crops as compared with pasture—the one exception being the