

land in transition, where a certain area is being stumped every year. A root crop or other forage (including maize), followed by oats for grain and chaff, and that in turn by rape or barley for grazing along with the pasture mixture to form the basis of a long and profitable pasture, is undoubtedly an excellent system to pursue. In either case, notwithstanding the relative unprofitableness of some of the crops grown, it is beyond doubt a much wiser course to pursue than any vain attempt to make bad pastures good by top-dressing, when the real trouble is due to weeds and inferior grasses and pasture plants induced by bad soil-conditions.

It may be interesting for readers to know that at the Weraroa Experimental Farm (although the latter is, to my mind, essentially permanent-pasture country) investigations have been initiated having for their object the determining of the absolute cost of production and the net returns from land under various systems of farm-management. These systems include,—

- (1.) A rotation consisting of oats for grain and chaff. Catch forage crops on stubble, followed by summer forage crops for supplementing pasture and for conserving as ensilage; after which the land is laid down to pasture for six years.
- (2.) Another rotation: Roots. Oats for grain and chaff, followed by grass sown down with a grazing-crop as temporary filler in two divisions, one division being down for six years, and the other division broken up at the end of the fourth year and devoted for the two remaining years to temporary grass for hay sown down with a forage crop.
- (3.) Permanent pasture embodying top-dressing trials for the maintenance thereof in full production, together with a small area under a fixed rotation of forage crops—hay, roots, oats for chaff.
- (4.) Lucerne for the intermittent fattening of store stock, and as an adjunct to general farm economy.
- (5.) Crop rotation in connection with pig-raising.
- (6.) The growing of grasses and clovers for seed-production, accompanied by stock-grazing during the months when the paddocks are not closed up for seed.
- (7.) A rotation including only sale crops, such as certain cereals, peas, tares, certain forage and root crops for seed, and potatoes.

A very exact system of book-keeping and recording has been devised and put in operation for the purpose of securing reliable