

In the early days of the use of danthonia in New Zealand *semiannularis* was mainly used, but owing to the advice of the Department *pilosa* is now mainly used, as it is for general purposes by far the superior form. *D. semiannularis* is still used in scrubby (manuka and fern) country where, after sowing, burning from time to time is necessary. The reason why *pilosa* is not used so largely in this case is due to the taller and drier growth of *semiannularis* carrying a fire so much better.

Much second- and third-class country in New Zealand originally sown with rye, cocksfoot, &c., is now almost pure danthonia pasture, it having come into this grass naturally and through stocking with sheep previously pastured in danthonia country, the fleeces carrying and distributing the seed. Much of the best danthonia country is quite two-sheep country, and it can be therefore realized that its development into this type of pasture has been a boon to the Dominion. Again, much of the original lowland tussock (*Poa australis*) sheep-country is now mainly danthonia, and carries far more stock than formerly. It must be noted, however, that danthonia is not advocated on rich land, but only on soils where rye-grass and cocksfoot will not succeed. Another point to be considered is that danthonia is never sown on ploughed land except under special conditions, such as pumice country, but is practically always sown on the ashes on third-class forest land or on burnt scrub or fern county.

The amount of seed used per acre varies. In general, far too little is sown, but the price is a bar in this particular, and it is hard to persuade farmers that it is necessary often to spend more on the seeding of inferior country than it is on good land. On poor country, where the better grasses do not hold more than a few years, it is now customary to include from 2 lb. to 6 lb. of danthonia in the mixture. On country originally sown with English grasses, but which has developed into fern and manuka, large amounts of danthonia with some cheap grass like Yorkshire fog should be used; really from 12 lb. to 16 lb. per acre would be best, but such amounts are rarely used. The best time to sow is from the end of January to the end of March. Danthonia is fairly slow to develop, hence the necessity of using other grasses to cover up the land rapidly. However, when once established, danthonia spreads rapidly, owing to its habit of seeding even when fairly heavily stocked. When kept well down it is excellent sheep-pasture, but by autumn it has often got away, and the dry herbage is then very inferior for sheep during the winter. Burning is often resorted to, but although effective this is a wasteful method. The best results have followed cattle-stocking (steers a year and a half to two