

years and a half old) in the autumn and winter. This, of course, is only necessary where the herbage has got hard, dry, and long. In the North Island *pilosa* grows well during the winter and yields very palatable feed, and it is for this reason that its average carrying-capacity is fairly high.

Danthonia stands frost well, but I am inclined to think that the better forms are more suited to lowland than upland conditions. I am convinced that danthonia would respond amazingly to top-dressing, but experiments in this treatment have not been carried out on an extended scale. Phosphates, both in the form of super-phosphate and basic slag, have, over limited areas, given astonishing results. Danthonia is only suitable for pasture, and as it is generally sown on country too rough for haymaking this is no drawback.

Sowing is always done broadcast by hand, and the seed is very difficult to sow owing to the seeds matting together, *semiannularis* being especially bad in this respect. In windy weather it is almost impossible to make an even cast.

The seed is mainly harvested by hand by Maoris, the heads only being cut, and the seed flailed, coarse riddles being used to remove the straw. Where there is a good crop of seed and the country is sufficiently level stripping is adopted with very satisfactory results. Areas should be shut up for seed about the end of October and the seed harvested in January. The seed falls badly when ripe, and the practice is to harvest it when not ripe enough, hence the germination is often inferior. Good lines should germinate over 80 per cent., but an average germination of 50 per cent. can be considered satisfactory. Owing to the fluffiness of the seed, machine cleaning is out of the question, and samples often contain large amounts of hair-grass and fog. These impurities are of no moment, as their presence on the type of land on which danthonia is sown cannot be looked upon as harmful.

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It has been part of my duty at the Board of Agriculture to make a study of the agriculture of Germany, and in the course of my work it became apparent to me that if agriculture had made no more progress in Germany than it has in the United Kingdom during the period 1895 to 1915 the German Empire would have been at the end of its food resources long before the end of the second year of the war, and that, as a matter of fact, the war was being fought by it just as much on an agricultural as on a military organization of the nation.—*Lord Selborne, when President of the English Board of Agriculture.*