

singleness of purpose which induces very considerable thought and study in planning the matings. Such work must, in the aggregate, yield results such as are in the best interests of our dairy breeds, to which we must look for the sires that will improve the production of the average dairy cow in New Zealand.

This is the sixth calendar year during which the Division has issued certificates of record. It is gratifying to note that during that period we have issued certificates on the production of 1,001 cows. In addition, 108 repeat certificates have been issued. The details are set out in the following table, which shows the number of certificates issued during each calendar year since the commencement of the system:—

Breed.	1913.	1914.		1915.		1916.		1917.		1918.	
		Ordinary.	Repeat.	Ordinary.	Repeat.	Ordinary.	Repeat.	Ordinary.	Repeat.	Ordinary.	Repeat.
Jersey ..	67	104	14	91	4	94	11	94	13	113	8
Friesian ..	48	67	11	62	9	44	5	62	14	57	14
Ayrshire ..	..	17	1	12	1	9	..	4	3	4	..
Shorthorn ..	..	..	..	2	..	7	..	21	..	22	..
Totals ..	115	188	26	167	14	154	16	181	30	196	22

Not only should the breeder have his breeding-plan, but it is time that the average dairyman studied the records of purebred cows intelligently and selected a strain of pure breed on which to build up his future herd. Quite a number of dairymen use purebred dairy bulls, but have not yet considered the advisability of adhering to one strain, although in the majority of instances they probably have found that the strain they have been using is good.

JERSEYS.

The certificates issued on the production of Jerseys during 1918 show an increase of fourteen over the preceding year. This is equal to 13 per cent., and while the actual number may be small the percentage of increase is very acceptable, more especially when the conditions obtaining with respect to labour are considered.

Class-averages.

During the year certificates for first records have been awarded on the production of 113 cows and heifers. In addition, eight certificates have been issued on repeat records. Splendid work has been accomplished in effecting an increase in the average production of all classes save the junior two-year-old, which shows a slight decrease. The maximum class increase in average production is shown by the four-year-olds, where the figures have been raised from 410.53 lb. butter-fat in 1917 to 448.41 lb. in 1918, an improvement of 37.88 lb.