

The table potatoes throughout were an even and excellent sample. Particulars of seed, yields, &c., are given in the following record:—

Drill.	Particulars of Seed.	Weight of Seed planted.	Equivalent per Acre.	Yield of Drills.			Equivalent Yield per Acre.
				Table.	Small.	Total.	
1	Large tubers, 2 in. and upwards in diameter, uncut	70	Cwt. 25.68	lb. 352	lb. 173	lb. 525	Tons. 9.63
2	Small tubers, 1½ in. in diameter, uncut	23	8.43	285	140	425	7.79
3	Medium tubers, 1½ in. to 2 in. in diameter, uncut	60½	22.19	212	100	312	5.72
4	Large tubers, cut in three (control drill)	23	8.43	300	145	445	8.16
5	Large tubers, cut in halves	31½	11.55	410	200	610	11.19
6	Medium tubers, cut in halves	23½	8.62	327	160	487	8.93
7	Medium tubers, cut in three (control drill)	19	6.97	345	165	510	9.35
8	Small tubers, cut in halves	12½	4.58	352	168	520	9.53

My own experience, extending over a long period when growing potatoes in the Auckland and Waikato districts, is that cut seed planted in well-prepared and drained soil proves the most economical not only in the saving in weight of seed, but also in obtaining better results; and, further, that where facilities will allow in well-prepared land potatoes should be planted deeper than is customary, as a preventive against blight.

Experimental Orchard for Canterbury.—An area comprising 4 acres of orchard and 4 acres of grassland, situated at the corner of Harewood and Isleworth Roads, Papanui, Christchurch, has been leased by the Department from Mr. R. Herdman Smith for the purposes of an experimental orchard, and was taken over on 1st May. A scheme of experiments has been arranged and is being put into operation forthwith. The area will be under the supervision of the District Orchard Instructor, and a working overseer has been appointed.

The Vintage and Table-grape Production.—Owing to unseasonable weather the vintage in all vine-growing parts of the Dominion was fully a month late this season. The make of wine is estimated at 48,000 gallons, or about one-fifth less than that of the previous vintage. The production of table grapes has also been less this season owing to the same causes. The yield from 850 glasshouses is estimated at a total of 457,405 lb.

Elimination of Waste.—As a result of official supervision of the discharge of foodstuffs at docks in the United Kingdom during three months of last year over 1,000 tons of poultry-feed was salvaged from ships by sweeping out the holds, &c. Steps were taken to improve methods of discharge in order to avoid such losses in future.