

CARROTS FOR SHEEP-FEEDING.

In the *Journal* for November, 1917 (page 277), the writer referred to carrots as a field-crop for sheep-feeding. Since then, owing to the increasing difficulty of growing swedes free of disease, carrot-growing for sheep has considerably extended in the Wanganui-Taranaki coastal areas. On a farm near Waverley this year 7 acres of a 13-acre field carried 800 breeding-ewes for six weeks, and did them well. Several field-crops have been weighed and have given yields of from 36 to 45 tons per acre. The Guerande carrot mentioned in the previous note is still considered the best for sheep-feeding.

Several methods of growing have been tested, but the one which appears to give the best results is sowing on ridges 21 in. to 26 in. apart, with seed at the rate of 1 lb. per acre. Thinning is not necessary, but the carrots should be intercultivated a few times by means of the horse-hoe to keep the land free and control weeds. With drills anywhere between 21 in. and 26 in. apart the cultivation is easy. Thinning has been tried, but so long as weeds are controlled it is not considered advisable. These carrots may also be sown on the flat through every coulter of the drill, seeding at the rate of 2 lb. per acre. The ridge method is the best, however, the crop being easier to clean and feed off.

Farmers who find it difficult to grow swedes and have suitable land for carrots are confidently recommended to give the latter a trial. They should be sown from the middle of November to early December.

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PROTECTION OF NATURAL ENEMY OF THE RABBIT.

By an Order in Council under section 25 of the Rabbit Nuisance Act, 1908, dated 20th August, stoats and weasels are declared to be natural enemies of the rabbit, and the killing or capturing of such animals is prohibited without a special permit signed by an Inspector.

In regard to this Order, it is notified for public information that—(1) In districts which are free from rabbits consideration will be given to the granting of an exemption from the general protection upon receipt of a petition in that behalf made by any local authority or acclimatization society in accordance with the provisions of section 25 of the Rabbit Nuisance Act, 1908; (2) Inspectors of Stock have been authorized to issue permits for the destruction of stoats and weasels on (a) island sanctuaries; (b) acclimatization societies' game-rearing farms; and (c) poultry-farms where it is established that damage is being done on such farms by these animals.

IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS INTO AUSTRALIA.

THE several Commonwealth Proclamations governing the importation of animals into Australia have been modified and consolidated as from July last. Importation from New Zealand is permitted of horses, mules, asses, cattle, sheep, swine, goats, dogs, and cats, subject to the general provision requiring certificates and declarations to be furnished in accordance with the quarantine regulations.