



The New Zealand Journal of Agriculture.

VOL. XXVII.—No. 4.

WELLINGTON, 20TH OCTOBER, 1923.

DAIRY - HERD - TESTING ASSOCIATIONS.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS FOR 1922-23 SEASON.

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THE herd-testing matter published from time to time in the *Journal* has indicated the rapidly increasing popularity of the association system in the Dominion, the records of over 84,000 cows having been ascertained by this method during last season. We are now able to give a summarized review of the 1922-23 season's figures available. The season itself was a most remarkable one for pasture-growth, and probably more favourable in general than the 1921-22 period. The fact that so large a number of herds were tested for the first time last season has somewhat decreased the association average yield as compared with the preceding year; but, all things considered, it must be accepted that the yield of the average cow under association test in New Zealand is very creditable.

For the 1922-23 season there were in operation 137 associations, fifty-seven of which, representing 34,558 cows, were controlled by officers of the Dairy Division. Of these fifty-seven associations average yields for fifty-six have been compiled, the remaining association having failed to continue sufficiently long to warrant including its figures in the present summaries.