

The first-mentioned mixture is now considered, from our experience at Puwera, to be one which will produce a good permanent pasture on this class of land. The fertilizer used, at the rate of 3 cwt. per acre, was a mixture of equal quantities of superphosphate and basic slag. The take was very fair, but the continued wet weather all through the winter and spring has had a bad effect on this area, much of which is flat and low-lying.

An additional 5 acres in tall manuka in Field 7 was cut; burnt, and surface-sown on 16th May with the following mixture: Perennial rye-grass (Poverty Bay), 12 lb.; Italian rye-grass, 4 lb.; paspalum, 5 lb.; crested dogstail, 2 lb.; cow-grass (colonial), 3 lb.; white clover, 2 lb.; Lotus major, 1 lb.; total, 29 lb. per acre. The grass has taken well, and should provide good grazing until the manuka-stumps have rotted sufficiently for the field to be ploughed.



VIEW AT PUWERA EXPERIMENTAL AREA.

Field 3A (with oats in stook), looking across to Field 3B. Photo taken last summer, since when Field 3A has been laid down in pasture.

In Field 7 the winding creek, which drains the lower portions of Puwera, has been straightened, and the water from heavy rains is now carried away much more rapidly. Further, the under-drainage of the soil on the low-lying land of Field 7 has been materially improved by the straightening of the creek. The result has been a decided general improvement of the drainage of the whole farm, but in particular the lower portions of it.

There is now nearly 50 acres at the Puwera area in grass-pasture. It is on the various grass-fields (all of which have been sown with different seed-mixtures) that observations are being made to ascertain whether or not a profitable pasture can be maintained. A further period of some six or seven years is necessary to secure conclusive results. Beef-cattle and horses are now used to graze the areas under