12 in. high by the beginning of June (ten weeks from sowing). It was therefore too rank when stocked, and in consequence was not properly grazed. Like the rye-corn, it appears to have decided merits as a catch-crop for winter use, but as it does not stool out well it should be sown fairly thickly—say, at 3 bushels per acre. Both these crops should be sown in early March for grazing in May and again in August and September. If sown at the end of April they could give valuable feed by early August, but in either case should be ploughed in after grazing in the spring.

SPRING-SOWN CROPS FOR ENSILAGE.

In order to provide fodder for ensilage-making, Field M was devoted this season to further fodder crops. This field grew millet and turnips last season, and was ploughed last winter. On 27th August the following crops were sown, the rates being per acre: (1.) Algerian oats, 2 bushels; grass-pea, 80 lb. (½ acre). (2.) Algerian oats, 2 bushels; Partridge peas, 1½ bushels (1 acre). (3.) Algerian oats, 2 bushels; Scotch tares, 1¼ bushels (1 acre). Manure in each case, 3 cwt. basic super per acre.

The crops suffered severely from bird-attack—a serious objection to early spring sowing in this district; but the oats developed into a crop estimated at about 8 tons per acre green. Of the legumes, the Partridge peas did best, but their growth was by no means vigorous. Both the tares and grass-peas were comparative failures, being stunted and sickly. This seems to indicate a distinct shortage of available lime in the soil.

ENSILAGE-MAKING.

Ensilage-making could with advantage be made a regular farm practice in the King-country, partially as a substitute for the now precarious swede crop, and partially as a solution of haymaking difficulties in a wet climate. Little has been attempted so far, but the demonstration given on the experimental area this season evoked considerable interest, and several settlers are adopting this method of conserving winter feed.

A small "hillside" pit was dug in Field L, this method being deemed the most suitable for local conditions, since few settlers can afford either a permanent silo or stacking apparatus. A pit approximately 12 ft. square by 8 ft. deep was constructed by contract labour at a cost of £7. It is estimated that a pit of this size should hold from 30 to 35 tons of settled silage. The material for ensilage-making consisted of the various crops from Fields L and M, mainly oats and Italian rye-grass, with a foundation of suckling-clover. The filling was done on 12th and 13th December, about 16 tons being put in on the first and 20 tons on the second day. The temperature before weighting with earth on the 15th had reached 125° F. The work was performed voluntarily by local settlers interested in the question of ensilage.

GRASSING.

Field F consists of a slope of loose friable soil, faces east, and is about 1 acre in extent. It was originally ploughed and grassed with the rest of the land, but reverted badly to bracken-fern. As has been stated, the top part was ploughed in 1921 and the whole in 1923; some of