

on the farm, and were closely examined when they were brought in for shearing in 1923. Only two were culled out on account of wool-defects throwing back to the original line of ewes in 1920. This hogget wool showed the great improvement that had taken place by using ram No. 2. The wool was more even in quality; it had a higher spinning count; also greatly increased density (number of fibres per given area of skin); the yolk was carried out to the tip, giving strength to the fibre (thus enabling it to undergo the combing process with very little loss in noil). There was also increased character, making it a more

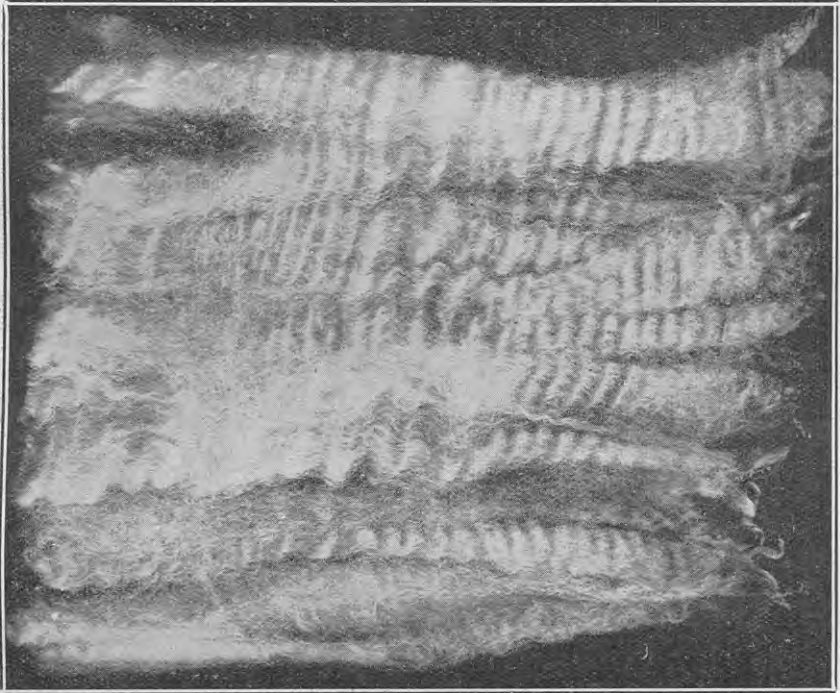


FIG. 4. WOOL FROM HOGGETS, PROGENY OF THE FINE-WOOLLED ROMNEY RAM (NO. 2) AND THE FIRST-CROSS EWES; 1923-24 SHEARING.

First-cross ewes were by ram No. 1 out of original ewes.

elastic, pliable, and soft handling wool (thereby enabling a high class of material to be made from it). A microscopical examination of samples taken from each fleece showed very clearly the great difference between the wool of these hoggets and samples taken from their granddams. A few of the fibres in some of the samples still showed slight medullation, but this was broken or patchy, the other parts of the fibre being pure wool. In several of the samples all the fibres were pure wool. The scaling on the fibres and the evenness of diameter throughout their length were also very satisfactory.