YEARLY VARIATIONS DUE TO QUANTITY IN MILK-PRODUCTION.

This phase of yearly variations was treated in the first article of this series (September, 1924), wherein it was stated that quantity and quality of milk-production were believed to be separately inheritable, but that the two had a limited interdependence and varied inversely, this being most noticeable when one factor varied considerably in either extreme.

CONCLUSIONS.

Summing up the general position in regard to variations in yearly tests, it is found that in all cases, except for the factor of breed, the variations are of small magnitude. Furthermore, they depend almost entirely on monthly test variations, and if the results of this article are studied in conjunction with those of the previous one a better grip of the subject should be obtained.

NOTES.

Period of Data.—The Jersey data used in the compilation of Tables 15, 16, and 17, and Graph 11, are for season 1918–19 only. In all other cases, unless otherwise stated, the data used for the various breeds comprise all first-class records from the commencement of C.O.R. testing (1913) up to 31st December, 1923.

Corrections.—In the third article of this series—*Journal*, February, 1925—(1) the footnote marked † on page 77 should read, "The equation for this line is: Number of days in the dip of the lactational-test curve of a particular breed = 722—(163 times the average test of that breed)"; (2) under the heading of "Lactational Variations due to Nature of Season," 1915–16 should be deleted from the list of good seasons.

(Series to be concluded.)

SOME SOUTH AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

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TEFF-GRASS.

ON a recent visit to South Africa the writer found that the Abyssinian grass named teff (*Eragrostis Abyssinicus*) is steadily gaining favour as a secondary crop. Many farmers in the Transvaal declared that they intended it to become their main fodder in the future, finding it less wasteful than lucerne and just as well liked by their stock. An analysis of teff recently published by the South African Department of Agriculture compared very favourably with that of lucerne.

After obtaining a fine tilth, from 4 lb. to 5 lb. only of seed per acre is sown, and, if no rain occurs in the interval between harrowing and sowing, the seed is not harrowed in. If, on the other hand, the land has had rain during this interval, the ground is reharrowed with a light harrow or similar cultivator after the seed has been sown. Growth at first is very slow, but after four weeks' favourable weather the field begins to show green, and from this stage onwards the growth is very rapid, and the teff is usually ready to cut four months from time of germination. Given favourable weather conditions, a profitable second cut can be made in two months after the first one. A good crop yields from 2 to 2½ tons per acre, and the market price of good quality teff hay runs from £4 to £4 10s. per ton.