

GRASS- AND CLOVER-SEEDS HARVEST, SEASON 1924-25.

THE following brief survey of this season's harvest in New Zealand of the principal grass and clover seeds grown is supplied by Mr. N. R. Foy, the Department's Seed Analyst :—

Rye-grasses.—Perennial : A good crop of heavy-weight seed was harvested in Southland ; in Canterbury the crop was poor ; in the Sandon district the yield was good and the seed nice in appearance, but the germination poor ; Hawke's Bay and Poverty Bay had an average yield of good-quality seed. Western Wollths and Italian : Good crops of excellent-quality seed.

Cocksfoot.—Akaroa : Short crop of very light seed. Plains : Good average yield of fair-quality seed.

Crested Dogstail.—Small crop of good-quality seed.

Danthonia.—Yield good, and seed particularly good, especially that from Canterbury.

Chewings Fescus.—Fairly short crop of average quality.

Brown-top.—Good crop of nice-quality seed in the North. Apparently very little was harvested in Southland.

Cow-grass.—Medium yield of average quality in Marlborough. In Canterbury the crop was poor generally, although the seed is of good quality.

White Clover.—Medium yield in Marlborough, and a poor harvest in Canterbury. Supplies will probably be a little short this year.

POULTRY IMPORTATION AND FOWL-PEST.

AN Order in Council gazetted on 7th May prohibits, save under permit issued by the Minister of Agriculture, the importation into New Zealand of poultry (including domestic fowls, ducks, geese, and turkeys) from any country other than the Commonwealth of Australia, unless each lot is accompanied by an official certificate from the country of export that fowl-pest (*Pestis gallinarum*) has not been known to occur in that country during a period of two years preceding date of certificate.

Fowl-pest is an acutely infectious disease caused by an ultra-microscopical virus, and in its course resembles chicken-cholera. It is usually fatal, no effective treatment being known. The disease was first reported from northern Italy, afterwards from Tyrol, Germany, Belgium, and France, and later from England. It has recently spread to the United States, and drastic measures have been put into force to suppress it. Canada has already issued regulations aimed at excluding the disease from her territory. It will therefore be recognized that restrictions on importation to this country are essential for the safety of our poultry industry.

FORTHCOMING WINTER SHOWS.

Otago A. and P. Society : Dunedin, 2nd to 6th June.

Waikato Winter Show Association : Hamilton, 2nd to 6th June.

Manawatu A. and P. Association : Palmerston North, 16th to 20th June.

Wanganui A. and P. Association : Wanganui, 24th to 27th June.

Poverty Bay A. and P. Association : Gisborne, 25th to 27th June.

Wellington Winter Show Association : Wellington, 30th July to 15th August.

Auckland Winter Exhibition : Auckland, 15th to 22nd August.

Ruakura Pedigree Stock Sale.—At this year's annual sale, held on 8th April, Milking Shorthorn cattle sold fairly well, but there appeared to be very little demand for Jersey bulls. The demand for Berkshire pigs was very keen. Following are average prices obtained for the stock sold : Shorthorn bulls, £34 ; Shorthorn heifers, £24 ; Jersey bull, £21 ; Berkshire boars, £8 5s. ; Berkshire sows, £7 5s.