

The various plots were top-dressed in 1924, 1925, and 1926 at the rate of 3 cwt. per acre, but no top-dressing was done in 1927. The stocking during the year under review was heavy, and the block was considerably enriched with animal-droppings, but the pasture was kept wonderfully clean and made rapid growth during any short period in which it was not stocked. The weighing of plots was done in a similar manner to that recorded in earlier reports, and green weights were taken immediately after the various plots were cut.

The accompanying lay-out diagram of the block gives the green weights of herbage for the plot cuttings in December.

The following table shows the average green weights of the manured and control subdivisions under various lime treatments:—

Table 1.

		lb.
Subdivision A :	1.8 tons carbonate of lime plus 3 cwt. basic slag ..	87.0
„ B :	3.6 tons carbonate of lime plus 3 cwt. basic slag ..	94.5
„ C :	No lime ; 3 cwt. basic slag	80.3
„ D :	2 tons burnt lime plus 3 cwt. basic slag ..	87.3
„ E :	1 ton burnt lime plus 3 cwt. basic slag ..	74.5
Subdivision A :	1.8 tons carbonate of lime plus 3 cwt. Nauru phosphate ..	86.3
„ B :	3.6 tons carbonate of lime plus 3 cwt. Nauru phosphate ..	90.1
„ C :	No lime ; 3 cwt. Nauru phosphate	88.0
„ D :	2 tons burnt lime plus 3 cwt. Nauru phosphate ..	87.5
„ E :	1 ton burnt lime plus 3 cwt. Nauru phosphate ..	74.6
Subdivision A :	1.8 tons carbonate of lime—control	67.0
„ B :	3.6 tons carbonate of lime—control	70.9
„ C :	No lime—control	70.8
„ D :	2 tons burnt lime—control	72.0
„ E :	1 ton burnt lime—control	64.8

The weights per plot under the manurial scheme are shown in the following table:—

Table 2.

	Totals.	Average.
	lb.	lb.
Basic slag—		
Plot 1	409	423.6
Plot 3	409	
Plot 5	453	
Nauru phosphate		
Plot 6	447	426.6
Plot 8	426	
Plot 10	407	
Controls—		
Plot 2	332	345.7
Plot 4	344	
Plot 7	347	
Plot 9	360	

BOTANICAL ANALYSIS.

Representative samples of pasturage were taken from each plot. These were examined while green, and divided into three sections—grasses, clovers, and weeds. These samples were then weighed and dried under cover, and again weighed to ascertain loss in drying. Results of the botanical analysis are given in Table 3 (next page).

The analysis is of considerable interest and importance. It will be noticed that the clover content of the Nauru-phosphate plots is this year (1927) equal to that of the basic-slag plots. In the three preceding yearly examinations the Nauru plots were inferior to the