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## FARM FORESTRY.

T. E. RODDA, Manager, Ruakura Farm of Instruction, Hamilton.

ADEQUATE shelter, shade, and timber plantations are extremely valuable on a farm. Shelter is necessary on a farm for the protection of stock, pastures, and crops. Perhaps the most important point in this connection is the protection of the surface of the ground from the effects of harsh, drying winds. This is particularly noticeable on western and southern slopes in early spring. Grass pastures are to a large extent dependent on the moisture held in the surface layers of the soil, and well-sheltered fields do not lose as much moisture by evaporation as ones exposed to the full force of the wind. Shelter is also very necessary for live-stock during cold and wet weather. Less food is required by stock to maintain their body temperature when sheltered than when exposed to cold winds. Shelter is also required for ewes lambing where the spring weather is apt to be cold.

Shade for stock is very desirable during the hot summer weather. Dairy cows especially benefit from shade, and milk better where shade is provided. Sheep and lambs revel in shade, and lambs being raised for export come to maturity much quicker. Shade is also essential for successful pig-raising, a phase of pig-farming that many farmers do not appear to have realized when laying out their yards.

Good fencing posts, battens, and rails are becoming, in most places, very expensive. Waste parts of the farm can be very profitably planted in quickly growing timber-trees that will yield quite good returns.

Plantations and hedges add immensely to the appearance of the farm and the countryside. Indeed the value and beauty of the farm can be increased by an inestimable amount by well-organized and judicious shelter-planting.

No hard and fast rule can be laid down in respect to the varieties of trees to plant for shelter. This is a purely local matter and must be governed by information gained through observing the varieties that do well in any particular district. Consideration must also be given at the outset to the result required—whether shelter only, or both shelter and timber. The practice of planting trees in single lines, with few exceptions, is ineffective unless the farmer is prepared to maintain them by systematic topping and trimming of the sides.