



Cover crops are satisfactory provided they do not result

in a smother of the establishing clover plants.

Montgomery red clover seed production should be concentrated on good, second-class country where satisfactory yields of good quality seed are obtained.

## Areas. Acreage. Soil Requirements

2 22 0 000	TTOT CHP.
North Island (mainly	
Hawke's Bay) 25	152
Marlborough 1	5
Canterbury (north of	
Waimakariri 30	326
Canterbury (Waimakariri	
to Rangitata) 35	485
Canterbury (south of	
Rangitata) 155	2,111
North Otago 40	663
Central Otago and	
Maniototo 8	66
Otago (Waihemo and	
Waikouaiti Centres) . 52	424
South Otago and South-	
land 12	149
357	4,381

From this table it may be seen that at present the greatest number of seedproducing areas are in Canterbury and the Northern Coastal districts of Otago. Nevertheless, certain other districts could profitably extend their activities in seed production.

In the following discussion on the production of Montgomery red clover seed it should be borne in mind that practices vary considerably, not only from district to district, but also within districts. It is impossible to deal at length in this article with every successful local practice, but an attempt has been made to emphasise any particular practice or practices which, although unusual, may be regarded as sound in certain districts.



Although Montgomery red clover as a grazing proposition is valuable over a fairly wide range of soil conditions, experience has shown that seed production should, on the whole, be concentrated on the better second-class country. On heavy rich country it grows very luxuriantly, and the large amount of leaf and stem produced is out of all proportion to the amount of seed set. This luxuriant growth results in a large amount of material to cut, dry, stack and thresh, all of which operations take place from late autumn to midwinter.

In addition, there is the quality of seed to be considered. Heavy lying crops will usually produce a large proportion of partly formed browned seed. which is disliked by the seed trade. On the other hand, crops on the lighter land produce a much lower proportion of useless leaf and stem and a much better quality of seed.

## Class of Seed To Sow

In order to obtain the maximum returns from Montgomery red clover seed production, only the best seed should be sown-and the best seed is one of the higher grades of certified seed, the produce from which may also be certified.

The following shows the present position in regard to the various classes of seed available, and the class of seed which may be produced from the first harvest of each, subject, of course, to a satisfactory report following field inspection:-

(1) Government Stock Seed produces Pedigree Seed.

(2) Pedigree Seed produces Mother Seed.

(3) Mother Seed produces Permanent Pasture Seed (First Harvest) (a).

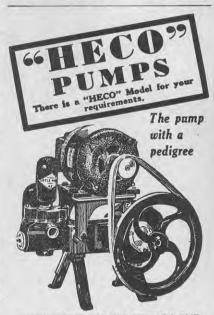
(4) Permanent Pasture Seed produces Uncertified Seed (b).

(5) Uncertified Seed produces Uncertified Seed (b).

NOTE:

(a) Subject to a satisfactory plot trial report. Mother seed may be produced in the second and subsequent harvests

(b) Subject to a satisfactory plot trial report, Permanent Pasture or



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