



Although Montgomery red clover makes first-class hay, areas for seed production should be grazed rather than hayed.



On heavy country, closing up in mid-November or later is desirable in order to avoid the handling of a large bulk of material at harvest time.

seeding of Montgomery red clover is not absolute, as the success of a pasture depends on so many other influencing factors. Under good conditions a seeding of 2 lb. per acre will give a satisfactory sward, whereas under adverse conditions a seeding of 10 lb. per acre might result in a failure.

The aim in sowing of most crops for seed is to produce a dense cover, but with Montgomery red clover a dense cover is not desirable. This is because at the time the crop is harvested drying conditions are, as a rule, not good, with the result that it not infrequently happens that great difficulty is experienced in getting what appear to be first class pure stands of Montgomery red clover into the stack in good condition. A stand which has the appearance of spaced plants rather than of a carpet of clover almost invariably produces a crop that dries out better, matures more evenly, and gives a higher yield of seed.

In order to obtain this type of sward different rates of seeding are required

for different types of country. On the second class country which is recommended for the growing of Montgomery red clover for seed production, a seeding of 5 lb. per acre is usual. In parts of Central Otago where very dry summers are experienced and where the clover is sown pure, a seeding of up to 10 lb. per acre is adopted. On heavy country the rate of seeding should be reduced to 3 to 4 lb. per acre, which amount provides a sufficient cover of plants.

It is the usual practice to sow at least one accompanying species when laying down a Montgomery red clover seed-producing area. Whatever is sown with the clover, there should be sufficient of it to fill up the gaps instead of allowing the weeds to take charge. At the same time, a seeding heavy enough to result in a smother of the clover in the early stages should be avoided.

In Central Otago, where experience has shown that weed competition

is negligible, pure sowings are quite successful.

Both Italian ryegrass and perennial ryegrass are used to a considerable extent as accompanying species, and are sown at rates varying from 10 to 25 lb. per acre. A seeding of 5 to 6 lb. of cocksfoot has also been included on the lighter land with quite satisfactory results.

The following mixtures should be suitable for the two main classes of land under consideration:—

	Light land.	Heavy land.
Montgomery red clover	5 lb.	3-4 lb.
Italian ryegrass	—	15 lb. or
Perennial ryegrass	20 lb.	15 lb.
Cocksfoot (if desired)	5 lb.	—
Timothy (if desired)	—	3 lb.

### Cover Crops

The sowing of pasture mixtures with cereal or other cover crops has been



In light crops which are difficult to collect after being mown the use of the clover buncher has been found very satisfactory.



The clover buncher is, in effect, a miniature foot-tripped hay rake that is fitted on behind the mower knife.