

rape taken, following which the grass may be introduced. If the paddock is deep ploughed, not much clover will appear in the crop, but on ploughing again the seed is brought back to the surface, when it will germinate and come away with the grass. If the seed is not left buried deeply when the crop is sown the clover will appear in the crop and may be fed off with it. Quite vigorous and dense stands of subterranean clover may be produced in this way without any re-introduction of clover following the taking of a crop.

Summary and Conclusions

(1) Subterranean clover builds up the fertility of light land to the stage where it will support continued ryegrass growth, and in North Canterbury it is proving its worth on such light and on medium class land.

(2) It should be remembered that under suitable soil and climatic conditions white and red clovers are of

higher production than subterranean clover. The latter must not be regarded as a **substitute** for either white or red clover, but rather as **another** clover which may be used to enhance the productivity of light to medium class land.

(3) Seasonal climatic conditions, especially in respect of the time and extent of the autumn rains, exert an important influence on the productive capacity of subterranean clover, but it has proved its ability to survive bad seasons and thus to provide a permanent type sward.

(4) The main strain used in North Canterbury has been the Mt. Barker, but Tallarook has been tried also and is likely to increase in popularity.

(5) The best method of establishing the clover is by sowing in a grass seed mixture apart from a crop. Often, however, the taking of a crop is associated with the sowing of the pasture, and satisfactory establishments may be obtained in this way provided the correct treatment is given.

(6) Drilling and broadcasting are both suitable under certain conditions. Surface sowing is not generally applicable, but is useful in some circumstances.

(7) Suitable months for sowing are from December to March, both months inclusive, but earlier than March seeding is preferable.

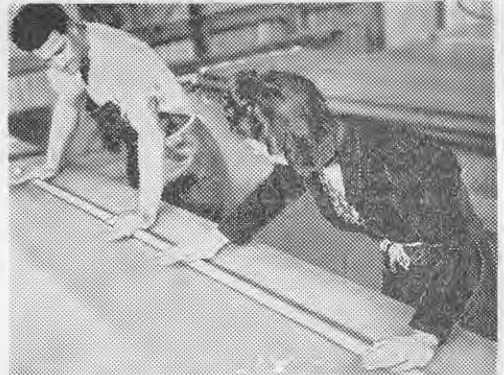
(8) The clover is susceptible to frost injury only in the early stage of growth before a good root-hold is established.

(9) Management is of paramount importance in the successful establishment and maximum utilisation of subterranean clover stands. Three points worthy of special mention are:—(a) Ample spell for reseedling in first year; (b) suitable topdressing; (c) grazing management. Small paddocks will allow maximum utilisation in making possible a system of alternate grazing and spelling.

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