



Dusting.

lowing financial year. This is understandable when it is realised that the financial year does not necessarily correspond with the cropping year. Autumn-planted cabbage, main crop carrots, and beetroot also come into this category. An additional column in the 1943-44 income includes the returns for the 1943-44 cropping which have not come to hand until the following year.

There is a very noticeable increase in expenditure on wages, sprays, seeds and manures, and containers. The freight and cartage bill also shows an increase each year, as more produce is being delivered from the farm. The apparently high figure of £109 for livestock purchases in 1942-43, especially in view of a reduction in dairy herd numbers, is due to the purchase of additional horses for cultivation work.

In the above budget no account has been taken of such items as "interest on live and dead stock," "wages of management," "depreciation of plant and buildings," all of which should be included to complete the picture. The figures given are cash book entries.

Table V shows gross returns per acre of the various crops:—

Over the three years the returns per acre of potatoes have varied from £64 to £112. Onions have shown a larger variation, the first year's returns being by far the best. The second year's crop was badly infected with mildew, which lowered the yield, and the third year's returns were also small, due to the dry season and consequent lower yield. The figures for beans in the 1942-43 season do not present a true picture, as the crop was not harvested for consumption and the returns are made up from seed harvested from 1 acre of the crop together with compensation received for the other 2 acres. Cabbage returns show a variation, due to higher prices being secured for cabbage grown under contract to the Internal Marketing Department in the 1943-44 season.

Market Gardening Future

When asked his opinion about the future of market gardening in New Zealand the owner said that an increased market seemed assured for potatoes, onions, and produce suitable for canning, such as peas, beans, and tomatoes, but he did not consider that the present demand for cabbage and carrots would continue beyond that

TABLE V.
GROSS RETURNS FROM CROPS GROWN FROM 1941 TO 1944.

1941-42.		1942-43.		1943-44.	
Total Returns.	Returns per Acre.	Total Returns.	Returns per Acre.	Total Returns.	Returns per Acre.
£	£	£	£	£	£
4 ac. potatoes .. 450	112	5 ac. potatoes . 318	64	7 ac. potatoes 627	90
1 ac. onions .. 272	272	1 ac. onions .. 122	122	4 ac. onions . 398	100
		3 ac. cabbage . 146	49	5 ac. cabbage 506	101
		1/2 ac. tomatoes 36	72	2 ac. tomatoes 166	83
		3 ac. beans .. 73	24	2 ac. beans .. 102	51
		2 ac. peas .. 52	26	1 ac. carrots 223	223
		1 ac. beetroot . 138	138		

of local city markets. He appreciates the fact that it has been a wartime demand. It is hoped that "quick freeze," on the other hand, will open up a market for vegetables suitable for this new process.

The owner is definitely in favour of a controlled system of market gardening under which contract areas of vegetables are allocated on a pro rata basis. He maintains that the ideal set-up would be a controlling body of growers and processors working together on a co-operative basis.

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