

# Farm Storage of the Potato Crop



**A**S an over-supply of potatoes in city stores is an ever-present possibility, farm storage facilities for this perishable crop should receive more attention. In this article some of the methods of storage are described by H. A. Duff, Fields Instructor, Department of Agriculture, Dunedin.

**F**OR some years a shortage of potatoes in New Zealand readily assisted the grower to dispose of his crop, with the result that in many instances the necessity to give consideration to storage facilities was overlooked. As it is not possible to forecast production accurately from season to season, it is always advisable to provide for adequate storage on the farm. Serious losses can occur if suitable or adequate storage facilities are not available.

## Storage in Pits

Pitting is perhaps the most common method of storage for large quantities of tubers, but it has some disadvantages in districts where the weather is uncertain. Tubers can be stored either loose or in sacks. Handling for grading at a later date can be simplified if they are stored in sacks. Where a well-drained and sheltered site is available baled hay or straw can be

Pits opened up to show potatoes stored loosely (above) and in bags (below).

