

to improve field germinations did not give any improvement to grass-seed germinations in these trials. The other major project is the investigation into methods of control of blind-seed disease of rye-grass, which is proving a serious problem to seed-producers.

Summary of Numbers of Experiments laid down, discontinued, and carried on, 1st April, 1946, to 31st March, 1947

Nature of Trial.	As at 1st April, 1946.	Discontinued during Year.	Laid down during Year.	As at 31st March, 1947
1. Pasture—				
(a) Mowing trials	9	4	7	12
(b) Serpentine - superphosphate observa- tional top-dressing	63	13	35	85
(c) Other observational top-dressing	15	8	10	17
(d) Minor-element trials	..	1	5	4
(e) Strains trials	15	6	31	40
(f) Pasture establishment	5	2	3	6
(g) Subterranean clover	4	2	8	10
(h) Surface-sown legumes	..	..	23	23
(i) Soil-erosion control by pasture over- sowing	..	1	21	20
(j) Miscellaneous pasture species	3	3	..	..
(k) Short-rotation rye-grass	35	6	1	30
(l) Technique trials	4	4	..	..
(m) Miscellaneous pasture trials (depleted land)	7	4	..	3
(n) Grazing trials	..	..	2	2
2. Crops—				
(a) Wheat manurial	6	7	5	4
(b) Wheat variety	5	5	21	21
(c) Oats	2	2	5	5
(d) Barley	5	15	22	12
(e) Brassicas	18	18	47	47
(f) Linen flax and linseed	6	7	10	9
(g) Sugar-beet	..	..	3	3
(h) Onions	2	1	1	2
(i) Lucerne	4	2	4	6
(j) Lupins	..	..	5	5
(k) Peas	2	2	1	1
(l) Maize	8	8	12	12
(m) Potatoes.. ..	..	2	35	33
(n) Other crops	3	3	1	1
3. Miscellaneous—				
(a) Pampas-grass	5	1	1	5
(b) Weed control	9	16	80	73
(c) Feed flavour	17	17	..	..
(d) Cultivation practices	..	..	5	5
(e) Casting worms	79	..	..	79
(f) Miscellaneous	..	..	5	5
Totals.. ..	331	160	409	580

SOIL FERTILITY RESEARCH STATION

This report covers the first year's operations of the Soil Fertility Research Station, established at the beginning of 1946.

The laboratory staff are still located at the Galloway ex-ammunition factory, but working drawings and specifications for permanent administrative and laboratory buildings to be erected on the Station have now been drawn up. Some additions to the research staff have been made during the year, but there is still a shortage of qualified chemists and field research officers.