

Details of expenditure, values, trees in stock, &c., are appended. The following is the rainfall for the year:—

Record of Rainfall and Temperature at Eweburn Nursery.

Month.	Rainfall.	Number of Days Rain fell.	Maximum Temperature.	Date.	Minimum Temperature.	Date.	Number of Days on which Frost occurred.
1902.	Inches.		Degrees.		Degrees.		
April ...	1.47	11	70	1st and 2nd	25	27th	12
May ...	0.53	6	55	7th and 21st	18	23rd	26
June ...	1.50	5	56	20th and 21st	17	17th and 29th	23
July ...	0.36	1	47	28th	20	13th and 27th	30
August ...	1.21	5	50	21st	16	25th	30
September ...	1.46	7	55	19th	18	9th	29
October ...	1.12	7	66	7th	20	20th	21
November ...	0.95	6	69	26th	25	11th	11
December ...	4.00	13	78	11th and 25th	26	4th	9
1903.							
January ...	3.83	11	78	24th	29	11th	2
February ...	1.62	5	78	3rd	30	23rd	4
March ...	1.53	8	72	26th	24	22nd	8
Totals ...	19.58	85	...	...	...	...	205

A. W. ROBERTS,
Nurseryman in Charge.

NASEBY SURVEY PADDOCK PLANTATION, OTAGO.

(Area, 125 acres.)

81,125 trees were planted here permanently during the year, occupying an area of 29½ acres. The total number of trees at this plantation is 288,505, covering an area of 105½ acres.

For next season's planting 95,900 pits have been prepared, at a cost of £1 2s. 6d. per thousand.

Planting trees cost 19s. 7d. per thousand, as against 19s. 10d. for the previous year.

About 28 acres were under oat-crop, yielding 15 tons odd, and valued at £26 3s. 8d. This has been cut into chaff, and sent to Rotorua and Eweburn Nurseries.

The growth of trees has been very satisfactory, the greatest loss in planting this season being amongst trees sent from Tapanui. The following varieties have done best: *Pinus Austriaca* has done well, and seldom seems to miss if the plants are healthy. Some one-year-olds, once transplanted, were put in and have done very well; they also seem to strike quicker than the stronger ones. *Pinus ponderosa* does well, although shy to take root, but when once established it passes the former. *Pinus Benthamiana*, like *ponderosa*, is also difficult to transplant, but does well enough when established. Two thousand off the seed-beds were put out as an experiment, and these have all succeeded except an odd one or two. This experiment will be repeated this season. Larch has done very well, the best specimens being on the slope of the hill, where the soil is almost pure gravel. It does not do so well on the flat land, where it is rather damp during winter. *Pinus laricio* has done well in some places, but it is very slow, and seems to lie dormant for a long time after transplanting. *Abies Douglasii* has not done well, and so far is a failure here. Possibly the plants would do better if they had shelter for the first year or so, as it is in the young stage that they go off with frosty winds. Birch have done fairly well so far. Alders have done very well in the swampy land. Taking the plantation on the whole the trees have made excellent growth, and the loss does not amount to more than 2 per cent.

Draining has been carried out as far as possible, there being an area of 28 acres rather wet in the subsoil. The cost to date was £19 13s.

A strip round the western boundary has been chipped to a width of 6 ft. to prevent spread of fire from adjoining land.

The trees have been hand-hoed and undergrowth cleared away, also all blanks opened up ready for renewal this season. The work of hoeing round the trees for the first year is an improvement, as the difference in growth is most marked where this had not been carried out previously.

Rabbits or hares are rarely seen in the enclosure, and if the fence were netted up to the top wire it would prevent any stray ones getting in. The trees chiefly attacked are laburnums and rowans, but no serious loss has occurred so far.

The expenditure on this plantation for the year amounts to £321 14s. 7d., and the total expenditure to date is £1,365 9s. 5d.

A. W. ROBERTS,
Nurseryman in Charge.

GIMMERBURN PLANTATION RESERVE, OTAGO.

(Area, 420 acres.)

This reserve is at present being cropped with turnips, and 200 acres are now under cultivation. The land has been kept free of weeds as far as possible, in terms of the lease. It is intended to resume 100 acres in the autumn, and have it pitted in readiness for the following season's planting.

The rental received during the year for privilege of cropping was £84 19s. 6d.

A. W. ROBERTS,
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