

Horse-feed and Live-stock.—Scarcely sufficient horse-feed for our stock was grown during the season, as by so doing the nursery-area would have been unduly taxed. Fortunately the associated pastures were in a better condition than formerly, and the consumption of chaff by our thirteen horses was accordingly curtailed. Some 5 tons of oaten sheaf and 10 tons of rye and clover were harvested under favourable conditions, and this quantity will be supplemented by produce specially grown for the southern stations at Gimmerburn Plantation. The number of live-stock was increased to fourteen head by the arrival of a filly of the desired stamp.

Miscellaneous Works.—An expenditure of £200 was incurred in the acquirement of the adjoining leasehold property of 12 acres, together with a small dwellinghouse and minor improvements.

To overcome the disadvantage arising from the presence of horses grazing amongst the native bush adjacent to the nursery about 40 chains of fencing was erected and gates hung at convenient positions. Several semi-decayed gates on the main boundaries were also replaced with those of a more durable character.

All buildings and implements received the usual annual overhaul, and are in excellent order throughout.

The annual expenditure amounted to £2,220 3s. 8d., providing employment to 10·9 men, and the total expenditure to date reaches £25,277 18s. 1d.

The year's output to plantations, public bodies, &c., is 1,105,790, which are valued at £3,325 0s. 11d. as per Schedule V, but in all probability this number will not be reached during the ensuing season.

Some 4,069,590 trees in various stages are now in stock, against which the value of £5,852 18s. 7d. has been shown.

Statement of expenditure, Property Account, Trees Account, and meteorological records are appended.

Schedule I.

Month.	Rainfall.	Number of Days Rain fell.	Temperature.		Number of Days Frosts occurred.
			Maximum.	Minimum.	
1912.					
	In.		Deg. Fahr.	Deg. Fahr.	
April	2·80	19	73	29	3
May	3·33	20	61	27	11
June	7·98	24	55	22	12
July	2·06	14	58	22	14
August	2·84	12	64	22	11
September	3·10	19	64	31	4
October	4·93	17	71	28	3
November	3·23	23	81	32	1
December	1·29	12	86	37	..
1913.					
January	3·11	19	85	33	..
February	3·60	16	87	33	..
March	5·18	18	81	30	1
Totals	43·45	213	..	..	60

Schedule II.—Statement of Expenditure.

	For Year.			To Date.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Tree-planting and maintenance—						
Tree-growing	887	0	0	12,666	15	11
General maintenance and repairs	402	15	2	2,680	1	2
Tree-seeds	138	1	11	1,205	0	7
Manures	23	19	9	245	8	1
Horse-feed, purchased and grown	94	0	2	1,279	17	11
Miscellaneous works	61	13	6	282	12	10
Stock and material—Tools and implements	23	13	11	1,005	13	11
Permanent works—						
Buildings	272	4	0	2,271	7	4
Nursery-formation	5	5	6	502	10	3
Fencing	13	8	9	617	10	8
Water-supply	0	9	0	224	14	6
Supervision and clerical—						
Proportion of Superintending Nurseryman's salary	125	0	0	1,885	14	11
Proportion of Nursery Foreman's salary	67	12	0	67	12	0
Clerical assistance	105	0	0	342	18	0
	2,220	3	8	£25,277	18	1