

WISCONSIN'S HEMP INDUSTRY

That subject was finely presented in Bulletin No. 293 of May 1918, by Prof. A. H. Wright. He stated that hemp raising in Wisconsin had increased seven-fold since 1912, and in certain localities had become a profitable new crop. Several hundred acres must be grown in a vicinity to make hemp production profitable. Wisconsin is the second largest hemp producing state in the Union. Hemp fiber is a national necessity. The crop should be grown in fertile soil and is useful for smothering quack grass and Canada thistle. Fiber hemp does not mature seed in Wisconsin. Seed for planting comes from Kentucky. It is drilled in a well prepared seed bed, in the Spring, and requires no further attention until it is ready to harvest in September. It is harvested with a special machine which spreads the stalks in a thin window ^{row}. A few weeks later the stalks are bound, shocked and stacked. The dry, cured hemp stalks are hauled to a breaking mill which removes the woody portion. There are nine of these mills in Wisconsin. The crop averages 1,200 ^{lbs.} per acre worth gross, an average of \$75 per acre. The illustrated bulletin gave ^{full} ~~free~~ directions for the growing and handling of hemp.

RESEARCH BULLETINS OF 1916 (Nitrogen from Legume Growth)

In Research Bulletin No. 39 of October 1916, Professors E. B. Fred and E. J. Graul dealt with the subject of the gain in nitrogen from growth of legumes on acid soils. In their experiments of 1915, Colby silt loam series, the increase in growth and percentage of nitrogen in inoculated alfalfa, far exceeded that of the previous year. An application of both lime and inoculation gave the greatest yield of dry matter. Applications of lime alone gave a gain in plant growth. In the Plainfield Sand an enormous increase was noted wherever the proper bacteria were added. From the data obtained it was apparent that applications of legume bacteria are even more beneficial to the growth of alfalfa on Plainfield sand