

LIVESTOCK AIDS IN BEET RAISING

Fertilization Makes It Unnecessary to Rotate Crops.

The farming policies carried out on the lands owned by Rockwood Brown, head attorney, who will receive one of the largest beet checks to be issued this year by the Great Western Sugar company, lead to a successful system of soil and crop utilization which makes it unnecessary to rotate crops from one year to another as the land is well fertilized each year by livestock.

Mr. Brown operates a 210-acre ranch near Custer known as the Grinnock ranch and a 180-acre ranch at Howard known as the Island ranch. Total beet production from the two farms this year will be 4,000 tons, with the yield running on an average of about 15 tons to the acre. Several acres have yielded as high as 20 tons, and in connection with the land where high-production was secured it was pointed out that the beets had been planted early in the spring—on March 15. The beets planted at this time came up without irrigation and the heavy drainage during April and May had to be irrigated in its start. The early beets were planted in fall-plowed ground as an experiment last spring to determine the value of early planting. Mr. Brown is greatly pleased with the results he obtained following this plan.

The ranch near Custer has been operated during the last 15 years by Mr. Brown, and this year the production has been above that of the previous year. The growing quality of the land are increasing each year, it was said, because the soil is gradually becoming better adapted to farming through the fertilization which is effected by running livestock on the place. Mr. Brown has built two feeding corals in addition to other facilities for caring for livestock on the ranch near Howard and so convinced as to the benefits to be derived from fertilization of the land by livestock that he is letting the feeding ground grade to several acres for the winter, believing that the land will be helped greatly by the fertilization it will get in this way.

Mr. Brown has stocked his Howard ranch with 2,000 head of various breeds to be shipped as unfinished feeders about the first of December, and has stocked his Custer ranch with 3,000 ewe lambs to be kept for breeding purposes. His beet check this year will amount to about \$25,000 but his crop is valued at \$30,000 with the beet tops, which are used for feeding livestock.

Although the success accorded Mr. Brown in the successful combination of beet and livestock raising points him out as having a distinctive system, yet on examination of records at the sugar factory it is shown that other farmers in the vicinity have met with equal success in the combination. A farmer near Park City has both raising beets and shipping them to the local factory every year since the plant was started here. He has not found it necessary to rotate crops because of the fact he has fertilized his soil through raising livestock on his place as well as beets. He raised a bumper crop this year.

It was pointed out that Colorado feeders have been coming into this territory and buying sheep every fall to be finished for market and that the industry should be cultivated more in the Midwest Empire so that this region will secure its full benefit from its farming and livestock resources.

Custer Ranch Uses Cattle Grazing For Fertilizer. Big Monetary Gains.

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