

SUMMARY OF NUMBERS OF EXPERIMENTS LAID DOWN, DISCONTINUED, AND CARRIED ON FOR THE
PERIOD 1ST APRIL, 1948, TO 31ST MARCH, 1949

Nature of Trial.	As at 1st April, 1948.	Discontinued during Year.	Laid down during Year.	As at 31st March, 1949.
1. Pasture—				
(a) Pasture-production measurement ..	23	6	6	23
(b) Observational top-dressing ..	162	23	37	176
(c) Minor element	4	2	5	7
(d) Potash survey	20	3	24	41
(e) Pasture species and strains ..	96	15	61	142
(f) Pasture establishment (general) ..	15	3	10	22
(g) Surface-sown legumes	71	..	1	72
(h) Short-rotation rye-grass	22	6	..	16
(i) Depleted land	5	3	2	4
(j) Miscellaneous .. ..	..	..	11	11
2. Crops—				
(a) Wheat manurial	9	10	15	14
(b) Wheat variety	22	23	29	28
(c) Wheat, other	3	3	2	2
(d) Oats	9	9	8	8
(e) Barley	19	21	26	24
(f) Cereal green feed	6	9	13	10
(g) Brassicas	43	43	66	66
(h) Linen flax	4	6	6	4
(i) Linseed	4	5	13	12
(j) Sugar-beet	3	3	3	3
(k) Onions .. ..	..	..	2	2
(l) Lucerne	9	..	..	9
(m) Lupins	7	8	8	7
(n) Peas	1	1	1	1
(o) Maize	8	8	13	13
(p) Potatoes	42	43	47	46
(q) Other crop trials	7	8	11	10
3. Miscellaneous—				
(a) Pampas	5	2	1	4
(b) Weed control	131	46	71	156
(c) Cultivation practices	15	..	1	16
(d) Casting worms	79	..	..	79
(e) Blind-seed disease of rye-grass ..	9	10	16	15
(f) Insects and insecticides	5	10	12	7
(g) Abnormal clover seed investigation ..	..	..	39	39
(h) Miscellaneous	14	11	13	16
Totals	872	340	573	1,105

RUKUHIA SOIL FERTILITY RESEARCH STATION

Work has progressed very satisfactorily at the Rukuhia Soil Fertility Research Station, both in research and in technical services to Instructors in Agriculture. The Soil Section has carried out a comprehensive investigation of alternate methods of soil analysis to determine those giving best correlation with the results of field trials and also suitable for use by Instructors without laboratory facilities. During the winter a course in the use and interpretation of these methods was given to sixteen Instructors. Kit sets embodying essential equipment have since been issued to these Instructors and also to four Instructors of the Horticulture Division. Further instructional courses will be held and the service extended as the demand arises. Steps have been taken during the year to increase the effectiveness of the chemical laboratory by providing equipment and training staff for two relatively new developments in analytical techniques. One is in the use of spectroscopic methods, which will enable large numbers of samples to be