

my opinion was decidedly in favour of 30 inches depth, but I wished others to be convinced, and accordingly I stated in November, 1849, to the Agricultural Society of this county (Notts), that I would have a field drained at three different depths. This was done in February, 1850; the field is 8 acres, and contains 15 furrows, so that there were 5 for 2 feet; 5 for 2½ feet; 5 for 4 feet. The lands are all of the same width, between 6 and 7 yards. The field was sown with barley in 1851; seeds pastured in 1852; and the same this year. There has been no perceptible difference in the crops or appearance, and after rain, contrary to the received opinion, the shallow drains begin to run before the others. The field, or in fact the whole of my farm, is open for the inspection of any person, and if I should be from home my bailiff will give every information on the subject.

I intend the field to be sown with oats in 1854, and I hope you will see the crop growing in July, as the Station here is only 24 miles from Lincoln.

Believe me yours very truly,

RICHARD MILWARD.

Thurgarton Priory, Southwell, June 2, 1853.

XV.—*On the Comparative Profit realized with different breeds of Sheep.* By SAMUEL DRUCE.

To Mr. Pusey.

DEAR SIR,—The subjoined table was compiled in reply to a letter from the American minister at Paris, after visiting England on an agricultural tour, when some of the principal flocks were inspected by him, but he had not an opportunity of seeing mine. I was therefore prevented from a personal interview, and consequently conveyed in this form my ideas as to the relative value of the English breeds of sheep, and I have much pleasure in sending it to you at your request.

This subject seems to take the attention and call forth the energies of the farmers in consequence of the advance in the price of wool and mutton. The prices named in the table for Cotswold and shorter wools are nearer on a par this season than they have been for years, in consequence of the great demand there appears to be for coarse fabrics for exportation. In a general way Cotswold wool is from 10 to 15 per cent. lower than cross-bred.

Description of Sheep.	Comparative numbers that may be kept.	Average weight of Ewe Fleeces.	Average weight of Teg Fleeces.	Present Market Value of Ewe Fleeces.	Present Market Value of Teg Fleeces.	Carcass weight of Tegs when fat at from 13 to 15 months old.		Present Value in Smithfield Market.
		lbs.	lbs.	per lb.	per lb.	st.	lbs.	
Cotswold . . .	100	5 to 7	7 to 10	15½ <i>d.</i>	16 <i>d.</i>	10	or 80	3 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>
Leicesters . .	105	4 to 6	5 to 8	15½ <i>d.</i>	16¾ <i>d.</i>	8½	or 68	3 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>
Hampshire Down	115	3 to 5	5 to 7	15½ <i>d.</i>	18 <i>d.</i>	8½	or 68	4 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>
Pure South Downs	120	2 to 4	3 to 6	16½ <i>d.</i>	18½ <i>d.</i>	7½	or 60	4 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>
Cross-bred . .	115	4 to 6	5 to 8	16½ <i>d.</i>	18 <i>d.</i>	9½	or 76	4 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>

It is nearly twenty years since I began crossing between the Southdown and Cotswold sheep, and with the ordinary skill of sheep-farming I find no difficulty to keep the form and size of the animal as it should be, the wool of a valuable quality and not deficient in quantity; and I maintain that the good qualities can be better secured by employing the cross-bred animals on both sides than by using the first cross. I know of other farmers who can affirm what I now assert.

It is a well-known fact that the layer and situation are of great importance to a flock, and the land I farm, which is of variety of soils, from the strong clay to the burning gravel, seems particularly adapted to this improved cross-breed sort.

It may be well to state the different kinds of food that are grown on the "variety of soils," in order to keep them on the arable land.

In January, swedes or turnips.
 February, the same.
 March, the same, and mangold.
 April, mangold, rye, and vetches.
 May, trefolium, vetches, and trefoil.
 June, vetches and clover.

In July, summer vetches and clover.
 August, rape and vetches.
 September, rape and early turnips.
 October, early turnips.
 November, turnips.
 December, turnips and swedes.

The ewes generally run over the pastures from November to January, when they are brought to the yard for lambing; they are fed on the best hay and roots, and sent in the ploughed fields as soon as the lambs get strong.

I remain, dear Sir,
 Yours faithfully,

SAMUEL DRUCE.

Eynsham, May 25th, 1853.