METHODS USED AND RESULTS OBTAINED IN CEREAL INVESTIGATIONS AT THE CORNELL STATION.¹

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INTRODUCTION.

During the past few years considerable interest has been manifested in the methods used in the various experiments of crop research, and considerable change in the handling of experiments in all agronomic investigations has resulted. This has been especially true with regard to the small grains. When, in addition to testing a few of the better-known varieties, selection and breeding work was undertaken, it was important to be able to handle a large number of sorts. This demanded a change in methods so that fair comparative results could be obtained without unnecessarily large acreage being devoted to any certain crop. The tendency has been to reduce the size of plats more and more until finally in a number of places the rod-row system has been adopted. So far as is known to the authors Mr. J. B. Norton, of the United States Department of Agriculture, was the first to put this method in general use.

Montgomery² has discussed this method in relation to plat trials. Since the authors in their work at the Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station³ have for a number of years been using

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