FACTORS INFLUENCING RESULTS FROM RATE- AND DATE-OF-SEEDING EXPERIMENTS WITH WHEAT IN THE WESTERN UNITED STATES

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INTRODUCTION

Experiments to determine the desirable rates and dates to sow wheat and other cereals have been conducted by nearly all agricultural experiment stations in this country. As a result of these experiments, and the experience of farmers, seeding practices are now fairly well standardized in most localities. Certain unreliable recommendations, however, have caused some farmers to sow at rates or on dates which will not produce the highest yields in normal or usual seasons. Seed of Stoner or Miracle wheat was widely sold some years ago as the result of claims that 1, 2, or 3 pecks per acre would produce as high or higher yields than thicker seedings, and that it would tiller and yield more than any other variety. Experiments with this wheat, which was merely the old Fulcaster variety under a new name, showed that it tillered no more than other soft red winter wheat varieties, and also that it yielded best when sown at 5 to 7 pecks per acre. Specific recommendations in regard to dates of seeding may lead one into an embarrassing predicament. The following information from a farm-