A NOTABLE change in varieties of oats has taken place during the past 25 years in the area in which spring-sown red oats are now grown (44). This area, the transition zone between the fall-sown oat region in the South and the northern common white spring oat region, includes eastern Colorado, northern Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, parts of Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia, and the southern parts of Nebraska, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. Some spring-sown red oats are grown in parts of West Virginia, Maryland, and New Jersey. California grows Kanota extensively, but largely from fall or winter seeding (24). Except in the Appalachian and Rocky Mountains, and the western deserts, these oats are now grown in a continuous belt across the central United States from the East to the West Coast. The culture of spring-sown red oats on such an extensive scale is a comparatively recent development in American agriculture. There are reasons for believing that the limits to which they may extend have not yet been reached. It is the purpose of this paper to present the history of the development of red oats in the area.

HISTORY

At the turn of the century, oat production in the above area was extremely hazardous as no really adapted varieties were available. Red Rustproof (also known as Red Texas), a midseason variety usually fall-sown, and the still less adapted common white oats...