Harvests when the oats were in the late milk to early dough stage appeared most desirable. Protein yields were increased with later harvests but the higher dry matter content at these stages of maturity offset the gain in protein if the forage was utilized as silage.

LITERATURE CITED


HOW WELL IS SWEET CORN SEED-TREATED WITH FUNGICIDES BY COMMERCIAL SEED COMPANIES?

STUDIES designed to answer the question raised in the title of this article were made in 1954 and 1955. After purchasing seed that supposedly had been well treated with a fungicide, Wisconsin Canners submitted samples to the writer who re-treated part of each with Arasan dust (50% thiram).

Comparative "cold test" germinations were made of the samples as originally treated by the company and as re-treated. The "rolled towel" technique was used throughout. Any increase in germination of the re-treated seed over that as originally treated, was considered a measure of the effectiveness of the company's procedures.

The results of the survey are summarized in table 1. Attention is directed to three conclusions: (1) Seed quality as judged by the high germinations (all exceeded 90%) shown in both the standard warm room tests and in the cold tests after re-treatment, was excellent for all the seed companies. (2) A comparison of the cold test germination of the seed before and after re-treatment with the fungicide in 1954 shows wide differences between companies.

Table 1.—Standard laboratory and cold test germination of sweet corn seed as treated with fungicides by seed companies and after re-treatment with Arasan dust (50 percent thiram).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seed companies</th>
<th>Fungicide</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Cold test germination</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Standard</th>
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<td>1954 study</td>
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<td>1955 study</td>
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Fig. 1.—Improved seed treatment by commercial company "A" in 1955 as compared to that of 1954. Towels on the left show germination in rolled towel cold tests of the seed as originally treated by the company; those at the right after re-treated.

NOTES

1. Received Nov. 11, 1955.