

NEW PASTURE SEEDING

Four 8-acre pastures were seeded to Russian wildrye on October 23-26, 1970. The approximate seeding rate was 15 lbs. per acre. A 12-foot John Deere double-disk drill with packer wheels was used for the seeding. Since the drill did not have an agitator in the seed box, two men rode the drill and kept the seed agitated and pushed down into the drill cups.

The seedbed was oat stubble about 8 inches high, and the seeding was made without seedbed preparation. The seedbed was firm and dry, and it was felt that very good depth control was secured with most of the seed covered at depths of 1/2 to 3/4-inch. Some precipitation was secured shortly after the seeding, and a good snow cover lay in the stubble throughout the winter. In general, the chances of getting a stand are considered to be quite good. The seed used was Vinal Russian wildrye, obtained from Joe Weiss of Belfield, N. Dak.

It is planned to use the Russian wildrye pastures as part of a project evaluating the use of two different grazing systems. The pastures will be fertilized at two different rates, and will be used primarily in the summer and early fall in conjunction with several other pastures used at other different times of the season.