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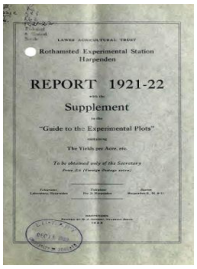
Report 1921-22 With the Supplement to the Guide to the Experimental Plots Containing the Yields per Acre Etc.



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Costs of Ploughing

Rothamsted Research

Rothamsted Research (1923) *Costs of Ploughing ;* Report 1921-22 With The Supplement To The Guide To The Experimental Plots Containing The Yields Per Acre Etc., pp 60 - 60 **- DOI: https://doi.org/10.23637/ERADOC-1-110**

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DETAILS OF PLOUGHING COSTS.

Cost of Ploughing One Acre of Land.

Horses.			Tractor.		
	1921	1922		1921	1922
21 hours	@ 9¾d. = 17/-	@ 7d. = 12/3	3 hours	@ 4/- = 12/-	@ 3/6 = 10/6
Ploughman : 1½ days	@ 8.5 = 12/7	@ 4/10½d = 7/3	Driver . 3 ,,	@ 1/2½ = 3/7	@10d. = 2/6
Implements	2/-	1/6	Implements	2/6	2 -
	31/7	21/-		18/1	15/-

Approximate Paraffin and Oil Consumption for Ploughing 3 Furrows.

	Austin	*Titan*
Paraffin per acre .	2 to 3 gals. : average 2½	3½-4¾ gals. : average 4¼
per hour : approx.	1 gal.	1½ gals.
Oil per acre . .	0.06 gals.	.66 gals.
Time to plough one acre about . .	2½ hrs.	3 hrs.

The farm manager supplies the following notes on the tractors during the season 1921-22.

	Hours of Work.	Paraffin consumed at above rates.	Oil Consumed.*	Petrol Consumed.
Austin . . .	835½	835½ gals.	17 gals.	54 gals.
Titan . . .	247½	371½ ,,	31 ,,	
Totals .	135½ days	1207 gals.	48 gals.	54 gals.

* Calculated at average rates for Austin 1 gal. per wk., Titan 1 gal. per day.

The consumption of paraffin per hour seems to be the most constant factor for purposes of calculating. The difference in the cost of various operations is brought about mainly by the width of the implement used and the speed maintained.

The number of hours exclusive of threshing = 870 or about 109 working days, equivalent to 6,090 horse hours, 2¾ horses per annum.

While a horse may put in 280 days' work, a good deal of this is of a maintenance type and not strictly seasonal. The tractor hours probably represent the time put into the important work of the farm by 3½ horses.

Types of work done :—

Ploughing	Roller + harrow.
Sub-soiling.	Roller only.
Cultivating.	Cutting and binding.
Drag + harrow.	Threshing.

Overhauling at end of season :—

Parts . . £3 11 8 (supplied free).
Labour . £11 0 0

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