

Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station

COLUMBIA, MO.

February 20, 1898.

SUGAR BEETS.

Last spring the Experiment Station sent Sugar Beet seed to one or more representatives in every county in the State, together with directions for growing and harvesting the crop. Samples from all of the crops that succeeded were sent to the Station in the fall for chemical analysis. Ninety counties out of 114 sent samples; the number of samples analyzed was over 300. The results of these tests warrant the Station, in co-operation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, in repeating the experiment this year.

The Station desires therefore to have the beets grown in at least two representative localities in every county in the State during the season of 1898.

The United States Department of Agriculture has just supplied the station with a large quantity of seed of the best variety, and these seed will be distributed free of

Director H. J. Waters,
Columbia, Mo.

The experiments already conducted at the Station with the Sugar Beets have extended over five seasons, and included beets grown in ninety-three counties of the State. From these results it is perfectly clear that in most seasons good crops can be grown on most of the Missouri soils. The only point about which there is serious doubt is whether we will be able to produce a beet containing a high per cent. of sugar and a small per cent. of impurities. The beets thus far grown in the State have proven to be only moderately rich in sugar.

The experiment station will furnish the seed, with full directions for growing the beets, defray the expenses of sending a few of the beets to Columbia in the fall, and will make a careful analysis of the same and report the results in bulletin form for free distribution among our farmers. It is hoped therefore that a number of men in every county will make an