

## PERCENTAGE OF GERMINATION OF SEED AT TWO STAGES OF MATURITY

WEED	Percentage of germination dead-ripe seed	Percentage of germination milk-ripe seed*
Meadow barley grass ( <i>Hordeum nodosum</i> L.)	94	90
Soft brome grass ( <i>Bromus mollis</i> L.)	96	81
Curled dock ( <i>Rumex crispus</i> L.)	84	88
Broad dock ( <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> L.)	84	88
Thorn apple ( <i>Datura stramonium</i> L.)	100	67
Shepherd's Purse ( <i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i> Med.)	..... viable	viable
Corn speedwell ( <i>Veronica agrestis</i> L.)	..... viable	viable
Chickweed ( <i>Stellaria media</i> Vill.)	..... viable	viable
Poppy ( <i>Papaver dubium</i> L.)	0	46
Nettle ( <i>Urtica dioica</i> L.)	77	70

\*By milk-ripe seed the author refers to seed in green capsules.

peg, Manitoba, as reported in Scientific Agriculture, found that when dandelion heads were clipped in mowing a lawn thirteen percent of the seed produced were ripe enough to germinate.

#### HOW MANY SEED DO DANDELIONS PRODUCE?

It is easy to see that dandelions produce plenty of seed but Roberts in Winnipeg, Manitoba, made a study and reported the results in Scientific Agriculture, showing that in a thick stand of dandelions in sod between 240 and 270 million seed may be produced to the acre. That is seed enough to infest new land at the rate of 100 seed to the square yard on 500 to 580 acres.

He counted the plants in 50 small areas and found that the field contained an average of 137 plants per square yard; these plants had a total of 265 seed bearing heads and, on the average, each head produced 192 seed. This figures out to 50,880 seed per square yard. These plants were crowded in sod and did not produce the maximum number of heads or of seed. Plants on the margin of this field where they had room had an average of 93 heads per plant and the heads contained an average of 252 seed. The highest number of heads per plant produced by these uncrowded dandelions was 146 and the highest number of seed per head 412. This makes a possible seed production of 60,152 seed per plant.