

BRITISH EMBASSY,
SANTIAGO.

18th August, 1949.

Sir,

I enclose a copy of an extract from a letter from the Australian Department of External Affairs, written on the 19th May last, regarding an exchange of Australian and Chilean seeds.

I have pleasure in forwarding accordingly 9 bags of seeds, which have just reached us by way of the Australian Legation in Rio de Janeiro.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

G. L. McDermott.

G. L. McDermott,
First Secretary.

Profesor Lecaros,
Universidad Católica de Chile,
SANTIAGO.

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Extract from letter of Australian Department of External Affairs, dated 19th May, 1949.

"In November, 1948, the Australian Legation in Santiago received a request from Professor Lecaros of the Catholic University of Chile for samples of certain Australian grass seeds. The Professor pointed out that he proposed to use half of these seeds himself and to give the other half to the National Agricultural Society in Santiago.

The Division of Plant Industry of our Council for Scientific and Industrial research has now made these seeds available and they are being forwarded to you under separate cover.

The collection now supplied covers fairly adequately the best Australian varieties of Perennial Ryegrass, Wimmera Ryegrass, Sheep's Burnet and Subterranean Clover. Further, a sample of Barrel Medic (*Medicago truncatula*) has been included because it has recently been found of considerable value here and may also prove useful in Chile.

It is not possible at the present time to include the seeds of Danthoria and Mitchell grass, as no supplies of these are immediately available. However, the Division of Plant Industry will endeavour to arrange for the collection of suitable samples during the coming summer.

The Division would be most grateful to receive in return samples of seed of the principal pasture plants in Chile, including especially any of the useful native grasses and legumes. They are particularly anxious to test here species of the genus *Ademia* and also the clovers which are indigenous to Chile."