Registration of Sorghum Varieties, VI

R. E. Karper

APPLICATION for the registration of Tift Sudan has been approved by the Committee and it is No. 95 among the sorghums to meet registration requirements. This variety is the only sorghum registration approved during the past year.

Tift Sudan, Reg. No. 95

Tift Sudan was developed from a cross made between Sudan grass and Leoti sorgo in 1936, backcrossed to Sudan grass in 1937, and the individual plant resulting in this variety was selected in 1938. The strain was increased and seed first distributed in 1942. Tift has a more coarse and stiff stalk, grows more erect, and stands up better than Sudan grass. The stalk is pithy. It tillers and side-branches more, and these vegetative tendencies contribute to better forage production, but poorer seed setting habits than common Sudan grass. The leaves carry recessive tan plant color and glossy leaf character, both of which contribute to its resistance to bacterial and fungus leaf diseases. Tift contains more prussic acid than Common Sudan. The seeds are slightly larger than Sudan grass; glume colors are chocolate and straw. The chief merit of Tift Sudan grass is its high resistance to many of the common foliage diseases which attack sorghum in humid areas, and it is of especial value in the Southern and Eastern States where these diseases are prevalent.

The variety was bred by Glenn W. Burton and was developed and introduced cooperatively by the Georgia Experiment Station and the Division of Forage Crops and Diseases, U. S. D. A.