proved susceptible to races 325, 326, 327, and biotypes of the 290 group present in Texas. The exact species classification of these varieties may be questioned because they have some characteristics of both A. byzantina and A. sativa. Coronado and Cortez were increased from F₁ plants and are not entirely uniform in plant characters. Both varieties are fairly tall, with strong straw and the best standing ability of any varieties available in Texas. Juvenile plants have a somewhat prostrate growth habit, but are more spring type in many characteristics and are not very winter hardy. Leaves are dark green and fairly wide. Cortez is about the same maturity as ‘Moregroin’ and approximately 10 days earlier than New Nortex. Coronado is 4 to 6 days later than Cortez. Grain quality of these new varieties is excellent, and in tests throughout the state, average test weight per bushel has been equal to Moregroin and other test weight varieties. The grain is rather short, plump, and light red in color.

Coronado was advanced to state and regional trials in 1965 and Cortez 1 year later. They have yielded equal to or superior to any varieties now available for growing in Texas and have also performed well in several other southern states. As winters have been mild during the testing period, the exact range of adaptation of these varieties from a cold tolerance standpoint has not been determined. During the past three seasons, they have survived and produced well as far north as Denton, in north central Texas. The general recommendation is that they be grown in the southern half of central and east Texas. Both varieties have produced outstanding yields in spring-sown tests at Bushland and Denton.

Foundation seed of Coronado and Cortez oats was released in 1967 and 1968, respectively, and will be maintained by the Foundation Seed Section of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

REGISTRATION OF VICTORY OATS

Franklin A. Colman

‘VICTORY,’ C.I. 560, is a spring oat (Avena sativa L.) which was introduced into the United States by the Swedish Seed Association through the U. S. Department of Agriculture in 1908. Several more introductions of the same variety, or variations of it, were made later and assigned higher C.I. numbers. In addition, several commercial seed companies imported seed lots for direct sale to farmers.

‘Victory’ (Swedish name “Seger”) was selected in 1892 from an old European variety named ‘Milton.’ Victory is a mid-season tall oat that produces white, plump kernels. It lacks resistance to diseases now prevalent in the United States. A complete morphological description has been published.

Victory is an important old variety. In 1936 it represented a significant part of the U.S. oat acreage. It is still grown in some areas of the western U.S., Canada, and Alaska; but a more important fact is that it appears in pedigrees of many current oat varieties.

Breeders’ seed is no longer being propagated, but seed in small quantities (5 grams) is available from the Oat World Collection, maintained by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Requests should be directed to the Crops Research Division, Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Md. 20705.

REGISTRATION OF WRENS ABRUZZI RYE

Darrell D. Morey

‘WRENS ABRUZZI’ rye (Secale cereale L.) was developed in Georgia over a long period of years by natural selection from Abruzzi rye. Abruzzi rye was found to be well adapted to the southern states where it has been widely used for forage and grain production. A 1915 catalogue of the Coker’s Pedigreed Seed Company, gives a good account of Abruzzi rye as follows:

Abruzzi or Italian rye was discovered by agents of the United States Department of Agriculture, while on an exploration trip through Italy in search of valuable plants for use in this country, and was introduced for the first time about January 1897, and brought with it this record: ‘Abruzzi, a superior rye grown in the Abruzzi Province, a mountainous district east of Rome. This strain is one of the best grown in Italy, having made an average yield of 28.5 bushels per acre for a period of ten years.

This rye was tested by the United States Department of Agriculture, found to be valuable, and was distributed about 1906 or 1907, but for some reason it seems to have been lost sight of until improved and introduced again as ‘Coker’s Pedigreed’ Abruzzi rye in the fall of 1919. It is not known if Wrens Abruzzi came from the original 1900 introduction or from two plants which gave rise to “Coker’s Pedigreed” Abruzzi rye in 1913.

Forage and grain testing of rye varieties and selections started at the Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station in 1921. Until 1940, the highest yields of grain came from French rye and the best forage production was obtained from an early Abruzzi rye from Brooks County, Ga.

Several sources of Abruzzi rye were tested from 1940 until 1950 with the result that seed from Maryland, North Carolina, and South Carolina seemed equally as good as that produced in Georgia. The chief difficulty was in obtaining the same seed of each succeeding season.

From 1950 through 1959, the Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station tested a number of local and out-of-state sources of Abruzzi rye. During 3 years of testing, the Abruzzi source from Wrens, Ga. gave the highest forage yields. Wrens Abruzzi rye was increased from these plants.

Fourteen years of additional testing in forage and grain trials established the superiority of Wrens Abruzzi rye for the Piedmont and Coastal Plain areas of Georgia and surrounding states. The average yield of grain for 14 years (1956 to 1969) at Tifton has been 2.258 kg/ha (36 bu/acre). Average yield of dry-matter forage at Tifton for 4 years (1965 to 1968) was 6.640 kg/ha (nearly 3 tons/acre). It was exceeded only by ‘Explorer’ rye in forage production during that time. It is now the most popular variety in Georgia and is grown on more than 50,000 acres in the southern states.

Wrens Abruzzi is an early maturing rye with a semi-urgent habit of growth. It is winterhardy in all of Georgia except the mountain area in the severest of winters. It excels any other rye which can be grown for abundance of green forage during the winter months. Grain yields are equal or superior to varieties now grown. The kernels range from light to dark brown with a few seeds entirely black. Kernels are medium in size, with 1,000 kernel weights of 18 to 20 g. Grain test weights range from 52 to 56 lb/bu. Wrens Abruzzi rye is