Registration of Crop Cultivars

Registration of Caribou Barley

(Reg. No. 120)

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'Caribou' barley (Hordeum distichon L., emend. Lam.), 62Ab3722-T, C.I. 14005, was developed cooperatively by the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station and the Plant Science Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and was released in December, 1970.

Caribou was selected from a cross of 'Piroline' x 'Munsing' made in 1960. The selection, 62Ab3722, an F2 from the cross, was entered in the Uniform Great Plains Barley Nursery in 1967. Reselections were made from F4 head rows. Breeder seed of Caribou (62Ab3722-T) is a composite of those selections. Caribou averaged 4% higher in yield than the original seed lot (62Ab3722) in trials on dryland in southern Idaho in 1970. The two selections are similar in general morphology, heading date, test weight, and kernel weight. Caribou and 62Ab3722 were similar in performance in the 1970 Uniform Great Plains Barley Nursery. Caribou is a two-rowed, early maturing, white aleurone, spring feed barley. The spikes are lax with smooth to semi-smooth awns. The rachilla hairs are short and the glume awns are approximately equal to the glume in length. The hull is semi-wrinkled to wrinkled. It is resistant to lodging under dryland conditions.

Caribou averaged 2% higher than Piroline and 6% higher than Munsing in yield in 14 station-year tests on dryland in southern Idaho. Caribou averaged 2% higher than 'Betzes' in 15 station-year tests and 6% higher, respectively, than 'Otis' and 'Unitan' in 10 station-years. Caribou heads about 5 days earlier than Piroline. The test weight has averaged the same as Piroline, Munsing, Betzes, and Otis and higher than Unitan. The kernel weight has averaged the same as Otis and higher than Piroline, Munsing, Betzes, and Unitan.

Caribou is recommended for dryland production in southern Idaho. The early maturity of Caribou may be an asset on high elevation dryland. Irrigated trials suggest that Caribou may be adapted to irrigated land in southern Idaho.

Breeder and foundation seed will be maintained by the Tetonia Branch Experiment Station, P.O. Box 72, St. Anthony, Idaho 83445.

Registration of Nugget Kentucky Bluegrass

(Reg. No. 5)


'Nugget' Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis L.) was released in 1966 by the Alaska Agricultural Experiment Station and Plant Science Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, at Palmer. It is used primarily for turf and is the only known cultivar of Kentucky bluegrass sufficiently winter-hardy for reliable use in Alaska. Nugget traces to a bulk collection made at Hope, Alaska (60° 54' N. lat.), an old mining community on the shore of Cook Inlet in south-central Alaska. The bulk seed collection from a number of similar plants was designated "Hope Dwarf". The cultivar was included in an intensive testing program along with other Alaskan collections and introductions from northern Europe and Iceland. Final selection was made on the basis of outstanding performance, over a period of years, in turf plots at Palmer, Alaska.

Nugget is characterized by outstanding winterhardiness, abundant rhizome production, very dense, dark green turf with narrow, vertically oriented leaves, tolerance to close mowing, high tolerance to natural infestations of powdery mildew and Helminthosporium spp. at Palmer, and rapid germination and vigorous seedling development. The cultivar is semi-dwarf; mature plant height in Alaska is 36 to 50 cm (15-20 inches). Inflorescences are average size and erect. Immature culms are distinctly blue-green in Alaska. Seed yields of over 1000 kilograms of clean seed per hectare have been obtained from Nugget at Palmer. Reproduction through several generations appears highly aomitic.

Susceptibility of Nugget to snowmold (Sclerotinia borealis Bub. & Vleug.) in Alaska is comparable to that of other cultivars. It was reported susceptible to Typhula 'ishikariensis' Imai in northwestern Canada. Reaction to other fungi causing snowmolds remains unknown.

Two generations of seed beyond breeder seed are recognized: foundation and certified. Breeder seed will be maintained by the Alaska Institute of Agricultural Sciences. Foundation seed is the first generation increase from breeder seed and is available only from the Alaska Crop Improvement Association, Palmer. Certified seed may be produced only from foundation seed.