REGISTRATION OF PLAINS BLUESTEM

(Reg. No. 4)

C. M. Taliaferro and J. R. Harlan

'PLAINS' bluestem, Bothriochloa ischaemum, was cooperatively released in Oklahoma by the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station and the Plant Science Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Plains is a composite of equal weights of 30 selected highly apomictic, but morphologically similar, plants. The 30 lines trace to seed accessions introduced into the U.S. from Pakistan, Iran, Iraq, India, Turkey, and Afghanistan, and were tested under the experimental designation Montana.

Plains is an erect, tufted perennial with a bluish-green color which is especially noticeable in early spring before foliage color is predominately light green but occasional plants exhibit a bluish-green cast. The forage is from 0.3 to 0.9 m high with 0.9 to 1.5 m long culms. Plants tend to produce inflorescences continuously from early summer to frost. The inflorescence consists of several unbranched racemes slightly curving up from the periphery of the clump. Culm nodes are glabrous to minutely pubescent, and blades are more upright, blooms 2 to 5 days earlier, and has larger seeds than 'Empire.' Carroll has outstanding seedling vigor, an attribute that will reduce difficulties often encountered in establishing stands of birdsfoot trefoil. Carroll also is superior to Empire and 'Dawn' in spring vigor, recovery after cutting, and winterhardiness. It is more upright than Dawn and usually yields more forage than Empire. Carroll is similar to 'Leopold' in growth habit, spring vigor, recovery after cutting, forage yield, and winterhardiness. Observations and performance data indicate that Carroll is adapted wherever birdsfoot trefoil is adapted in the North Central States.

Four classes of seed are recognized for this variety: breeder, foundation, registered, and certified. Present supplies of Syn. 2 seed of Carroll are classified as breeder seed. In the future, breeder seed will be produced from breeder seed by the Iowa Experimental Station. Foundation seed production is handled by the Iowa Foundation Seedstock organization. Foundation seed was first produced in 1970 in Minnesota, and a small quantity of registered seed was produced since that state in 1972.

REGISTRATION OF ADELPHI KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS

(Reg. No. 9)

C. R. Funk, R. E. Engel, G. W. Pepin, and Robert A. Russell

'ADELPHI' Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis L.) was developed cooperatively by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station and J. and L. Adikes, Inc. Its experimental designation was NJE P-69.

Adelphi is a first generation hybrid developed from the cross 'Bellevue' × 'Belturf' Kentucky bluegrass. An unreduced egg of Bellevue was fertilized by a reduced gamete from Belturf resulting in a facultatively apomictic hybrid possessing approximately 80 chromosomes. The mode of reproduction of Adelphi was established by examination of field grown progenies.

Adelphi is a moderately low-growing, leafy, turf-type bluegrass with good density, good vigor, and medium texture. One of its most distinctive features is an attractive, bright, dark green color which is especially noticeable in early spring before foliage color becomes green and again in late fall after most other cultivars start to lose color. A pleasing, moderately dark green color is also apparent at only moderate fertility levels.

Adelphi has demonstrated good or moderately good resistance to the leaf spot and crown rot disease incited by Helminthosporium vagans Drechsler, leaf rust caused by Puccinia poae-nemoralis Otth, stripe smut caused by Ustilago striiformis (Westend.) Niessl, and snow mold caused by Typhula itoana Imai.

Adelphi is well suited for quality lawns, parks, and sports turf in regions where Kentucky bluegrass is well adapted. It is compatible in blends with other dark green Kentucky bluegrass cultivars and in mixtures with fine fescues and textured ryegrasses.

Seed propagation is limited to two generations from breeder seed, one each of foundation and certified. Breeder seed is maintained by the Adikes, Inc. under the direction of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station.

Plant Patent 3150 has been issued for Adelphi.