Registration of Crop Cultivars

REGISTRATION OF VALOR AND PACER
ALFALFA1
(Reg. No. 81 and 82)
D. E. Brown and R. R. Kalton2

‘Valor’ and ‘Pacer’ alfalfa (Medicago sativa L.) were developed by Land O’ Lakes, Inc.

Valor

Valor (Reg. No. 81), tested experimentally as RS 80, is a nine clone synthetic. The parent clones trace to ‘Vernal’, ‘Scout’, ‘Dawson’, and ‘Narragansett’. They were selected following clonal and progeny tests in Iowa, Minnesota, and Idaho. Selection was based on high forage yield, seed yield, winterhardiness, disease resistance, and insect resistance.

Valor is a winterhardy cultivar similar in adaptation to Vernal. It is equal to or better than Vernal in forage yield, fall growth, and resistance to bacterial wilt [Corynebacterium insidiosum (McCull) H. L. Jens.]. Valor is more resistant to pea aphids [Acyrthosiphon pisum (Harris)] than either Kanza or Dawson. Its flower color is mostly bluish to purple with some varigation.

Pacer

Pacer (Reg. No. 82) was tested experimentally as FN244. It is an eight clone synthetic with one clone each from Vernal, Scout, Dawson, ‘Weevilcheck’, and ‘Saranac’ and three clones of Flemish origin. Clonal and progeny tests were used to select clones for high forage and seed yield, pest resistance, and winterhardiness. These tests were conducted in Iowa, Minnesota, and Idaho.

Pacer is adapted to the northern half of the United States in areas of adequate moisture where Vernal and Saranac do well. It has an upright growth habit with late summer and fall growth similar to Saranac. Flower color consists of various shades of purple with 10 to 20% variegated types. Pacer has been equal to or better than Vernal and Saranac for forage yield in tests conducted in Illinois, Iowa, Idaho, Indiana, Oregon, Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Quebec, and Ontario. It is similar to Vernal in resistance to bacterial wilt [Corynebacterium insidiosum (McCull) H. L. Jens.]. It has greater resistance to pea aphids [Acyrthosiphon pisum (Harris)] than Kanza, and a low level of resistance to phytophthora root rot (Phytophthora megasperma Dreh) similar to ‘Ramsey’.

Breeder seed of both Valor and Pacer was produced in isolation on parent clones in Caldwell, Idaho. Seed increase will be on a limited generation basis with foundation seed production limited to Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. Certified seed will be the first generation increase from breeder or foundation seed only. Parent stocks and breeder seed will be maintained by Land O’ Lakes, Inc.

Valor and Pacer were favorably reviewed by the National Certified Alfalfa Variety Review Board in December 1974 and December 1975, respectively.

REGISTRATION OF ROAMER
ALFALFA2
(Reg. No. 84)
D. H. Heinrichs2

‘Roamer’ alfalfa (Medicago media Pers.) was developed at the Research Station, Agriculture Canada, Swift Current, and high seed yielding, wilt-resistant selection at Saskatoon. It was tested experimentally as Sc Syn 3591 and released in use in Canada in February 1966.

Roamer is a 7-clone synthetic cultivar. The parent clones were creeping-rooted, vigorous selections made at Swift Current, and high seed yielding, wilt-resistant selections made at Saskatoon. These parent clones were used to select clones for high forage yield, winterhardiness, disease resistance, and insect resistance.

Roamer is well adapted for hay production on dryland in Prairie Region on dryland. It also performs well in Saskatchewan where only two cuttings are taken. Roamer has variegated flowers with blue predominating. It is as creeping-rooted as Rambler. It is more winterhardy than either Ladak or Vernal. It is resistant to bacterium insidiosum (McCull) H. L. Jens. A description of the cultivar has been published.

Seed of Roamer is multiplied through breeder seed, and certified seed classes. Breeder seed is maintained by the Research Station, Agriculture Canada, Swift Current, and certified seed is maintained by Land O’ Lakes, Inc.

REGISTRATION OF DRYLANDER
ALFALFA3
(Reg. No. 83)
D. H. Heinrichs3

‘Drylander’ alfalfa (Medicago media Pers.) was developed at the Research Station, Agriculture Canada, Swift Current. It was tested experimentally as Sc Syn 3651 and released in use in Canada in February 1971.

Drylander is a 15-clone synthetic cultivar. Drylander was selected from a cross of Medicago sativa x M. falcata breeding nurseries that had been overseeded with bromegrass (Bromus inermis Leyss.), and selected for longevity, strong creeping-rooted growth, and resistance to bacterial wilt and pea aphids.

1 Registered by the Crop Sci. Soc. Am. Accepted 5 May 1977.
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