Registration of Crop Cultivars

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

'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.)], has greater resistance to pea aphids [Acyrthosiphon pisum (Harris)] than Kanza, and a low level of resistance to phytophthora root rot [Phytophthora megasperma Drechs] 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 ALFALFA
(Reg. No. 83)
D. H. Heinrichs

'Roamer' alfalfa (Medicago media Pers.) was developed at the Research Station, Agriculture Canada, Swift Current, Sask. It was tested experimentally as Sc Syn 3391 and was licensed for use in Canada in February 1966.

Roamer is a 7-clone synthetic cultivar. The basic breeding stocks were creeping-rooted, vigorous selections made at Swift Current, and high seed yielding, wilt-resistant selections made at Saskatoon. These parental breeding populations included selections out of strains of Medicago falcata L. and the cultivars 'Rambler', 'Ladak', 'Cossack', 'Ranger', 'Rhizoma', and 'Hardistan'. The breeding method used in developing Roamer was based on selection of desirable plants grown in spaced plantings, intercrossing them, growing progeny lines, selecting within the best of these, polycross-progeny testing the selections, and then using the best parent plants to form the synthetic.

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

Seed of Roamer is being multiplied through breeder, foundation, and certified seed classes. Breeder seed is maintained by the Research Station, Agriculture Canada, Swift Current, Sask.

REGISTRATION OF DRYLANDER ALFALFA
(Reg. No. 84)
D. H. Heinrichs

'Drylander' alfalfa (Medicago media Pers.) was developed at the Research Station, Agriculture Canada, Swift Current, Sask. It was tested experimentally as Sc Syn 3561 and was licensed for use in Canada in February 1971.

Drylander is a 15-clone synthetic cultivar. The clones for Drylander were selected from second and third generation M. sativa x M. falcata breeding nurseries that had been overseeded with bromegrass (Bromus inermis Leyss.). The plants were selected for longevity, strong creeping-rooted habit of growth,