REGISTRATION OF CROP CULTIVARS

It would be classified as intermediate in maturity compared to other turf-type cultivars when grown in western Oregon seed fields.

The first commercial seed of this 32-clone synthetic cultivar was harvested in 1975. Turf-Seed Syn B was the experimental designation of Omega.

Omega is fine-textured and moderately low-growing with good year-round turf performance in New Jersey and Oregon turf trials. It has the fast germination and establishment characteristics of other perennial ryegrasses. Seed head formation during late May under turf conditions is reduced for Omega compared to many early maturing ryegrasses. Omega has superior mowing quality compared to common perennial ryegrass and many of the named ryegrass cultivars. Like all other currently available cultivars, mowing may be difficult under stress unless a sharp mower is used. Frequent cutting between 2 and 5 cm and a moderate fertility program are advisable for maintaining a good quality turf.

This cultivar has good resistance to winter brown blight caused by Helminthosporium siccans Drechsler, and brown patch incited by Rhizoctonia solani Kuhn. It has superior summer performance to many other cultivars due partly to its brown patch resistance.

Nursery observations in Adelphia, N.J., and Burns, Ore., indicate that Omega has good winterhardiness when compared with many other ryegrasses.

Omega can be used alone or in combination with Kentucky bluegrasses for home lawns, parks, or athletic fields in the northeastern U.S. It also performs well alone or in combination with other perennial ryegrasses and fine fescues for fall overseeding of dormant bermudagrass Cynodon dactylon L. (Pers.) and C. dactylon × transvaalensis Burt-Davy golf greens, tees and fairways. Under such conditions a 0.5 to 2.0 cm cutting height can be used.

None of the parent plants of Omega carry the genetic factor for fluorescent seedlings. Oregon turf evaluation trials indicate that contamination of Omega perennial ryegrass with seedlings that carry the genetic fluorescent factor will not perform as the breeders intended. Any seed lots that contain more than 5% fluorescent seedlings should not be considered as Omega perennial ryegrass.

Seed propagation of Omega is limited to Breeder, Foundation, and Certified classes.

Breeder seed is maintained by Turf-Seed, Inc. with the cooperation of the New Jersey Agric. Exp. Stn.

United States Plant Variety Protection Certificate No. 7600028 has been issued for Omega.

REGISTRATION OF OLEIC LEED SAFFLOWER

Oleic Leed is a composite of seed from 195 BC~ F6 high oil oleic plants. Oleic Leed has plant and seed characteristics similar to those of Oleic Leed. It is slightly taller, blooms later, has a more branching habit, and smaller seed than either UC-1 or 'Gila.' Most of the plants have orange flowers, but 3 to 4% have yellow flowers. The seed has a normal hull. Oleic Leed is susceptible to rust (incited by Puccinia carthami Klie Klis. and Puccinia carthami Klie Klis.), basidiocarpic leaf spot (incited by Xanthomonas carthami Klie Klis.), and verticillium wilt (incited by Fusarium oxysporum, F. carthami Klie Klis.).

Oleic Leed was entered in 16 yield tests over a 3-year period, averaging 19.2% more oil/ha than UC-1 or 'Gila.' In 1977 trials and similar oil production in dryland tests.

Foundation, registered, and certified seed classes will be recognized for the cultivar. Foundation and breeder seed will be maintained by the Foundation Seed Service, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and AR, SEA, USDA. Foundation seed will be available for the following years: 1979, 1980, and 1981.

Seed propagation of Oleic Leed is limited to Breeder, Foundation, and Certified classes.

Breeder seed is maintained by Turf-Seed, Inc. with the cooperation of the New Jersey Agric. Exp. Stn.

United States Plant Variety Protection Certificate No. 7600028 has been issued for Oleic Leed.