moderately resistant to powdery mildew incited by Erysiphe graminis DC and Helminthosporium leaf spot caused by Helminthosporium vagans Drechsler.

Baron is well suited for lawns, parks, athletic fields, cemeteries and golf courses in regions where cool season grasses are well adapted.

Seed propagation is limited to two generations of increase from breeder seed, one each of foundation and certified. Breeder seed is maintained by Great Western Seed Company, a subsidiary of Loft's Pedigreed Seed, Inc., in Albany, Ore.

Plant Patent 3,186 has been issued for Baron.

REGISTRATION OF MINSUM PROSO MILLET
(Reg. No. 64)

R. G. Robinson

'Minsum' proso millet (Panicum miliaceum L.) was named and released by the Minnesota Agric. Exp. Stn. on 15 Feb. 1980. Minsum was selected in 1965 at Rosemount, Minn., as a single plant in a spaced-plant nursery of common white proso millet.

Minsum (Minn. 55) was tested in Minnesota yield trials for 6 years at Rosemount, 4 years at Becker, 3 years at Grand Rapids, and 2 years at Elk River, Morris, and Lamberton. It did not differ significantly from Minco in average seed yield, test weight, or plant height, but it matured 7 days earlier and had less resistance to lodging than Minco. Seed weight of Minsum exceeded that of Minco by 11%.

Minsum is the first (American) white proso millet cultivar to be homozygous for effusum panicles, and the last syllable of its name denotes this characteristic. Other white cultivars are of contractum, compactum, or mixed panicle type. The openness and long, spreading branches of Minsum panicles may hasten panicle drying on standing plants, on lodged plants, or in the windrow. Minsum seeds (florets) are white and weigh about 7 g/1,000 and 68 kg/hl. The plants headed about 50 days and matured about 86 days after planting. Plant heights ranged from 58 cm in drought years on sandy soil to 114 cm in years of normal rainfall on silt loam soil. Leaf sheaths and blades are pubescent.

Seed classes of Minsum include breeder, foundation, registered, and certified. The Minnesota Agric. Exp. Stn. will maintain breeder seed.

REGISTRATION OF BENSON OATS
(Reg. No. 295)


'Benson' spring oats (Avena sativa L.), Minn. 7121, was developed cooperatively by the Minnesota Agric. Exp. Stn., ARSEA-USDA, and released in 1979. It originated from a single F2 plant selection from a 'Portage'/Burnett' population that had been advanced by single seed descent during the F2-F3 generations.

Replicated yield evaluations of Benson were begun in 1968, and state-wide performance testing was initiated in 1973. Benson was also evaluated in the Uniform Midseason Oat Performance Nursery during 1976 to 1978. In Minnesota, Benson yielded 3% and 5% more, respectively, during the 5-year period 1974 to 1978.

Benson is resistant to crown rust (caused by Puccinia coronata Cda. f. sp. avenae Ericks. & E. Henn.) races 31, 32, 37, 64, and 173 in the seedling stage. It has gene Pc 45 and exhibits a multiplicity of races in the Minnesota buckthorn nursery, Benson was moderately resistant to powdery mildew incited by Erysiphe graminis DC and Helminthosporium leaf spot caused by Helminthosporium vagans Drechsler.

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