These two cultivars were released as the first early-maturing Red Mexican beans with a very effective level of field resistance to fusarium root rot. They have been the highest yielding beans in this class in many locations throughout the country. They have performed very well in commercial plantings both in Idaho and Washington.

Breeder and foundation seed stocks are maintained by the Washington State Crop Improvement Assoc., Inc., 513 N. Front Street, Yakima, WA 98901, and by the Idaho Crop Improvement Assoc., Inc., P. O. Box 2601, Boise, ID 83705.

REGISTRATION OF ‘LOMETA’ INDIANGRASS
(Reg. No. 79)

David G. Lorenz and Richard B. Heizer*

‘LOMETA’ indiangrass [Sorghastrum nutans (L.) Nash], PI-434362 or PMT-802, a perennial warm-season grass, was developed by the USDA Soil Conservation Service Plant Materials Center at Knox City, TX, and released in cooperation with the USDA-ARS and the Texas Agric. Exp. Stn. in 1981. Lometa was released as a range and pasture improvement plant for central and southern Texas. It was collected from a native stand on the Kirby Ranch east of Lometa, TX, in December 1964. Lometa is a tall, vigorous bunchgrass that spreads from seed and from stout, scaly rhizomes. Lometa is late maturing, maintains green forage until frost, shows good drought tolerance, and has excellent regrowth abilities.

Testing of Lometa began in the late 1960’s and continued throughout the 1970’s. Lometa was compared with a number of native collections as well as with ‘Cheyenne’ and ‘Tejas’, two commercially available cultivars commonly used in the area. In initial evaluation rows, Lometa showed excellent stand establishment and good vigor. In advanced testing, Lometa was superior to all other native collections, and its forage yield averaged 1.9 times that of Cheyenne and Tejas.

Lometa is the most adapted cultivar of indiangrass with superior forage production available for central and southern Texas. Evaluations in southern Oklahoma and northwestern Arkansas have shown Lometa to be competitive with commercial cultivars available in those areas. Lometa is best adapted in Texas on areas receiving 56 cm (22 in) or more natural rainfall. When planted in soils west of this precipitation zone, it should either be irrigated or planted in overflow-bottomland sites.