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 at 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 stover, 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 quite 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.

Breeder seed of Lometa was produced under isolation with minor phenotypic selection to eliminate off-types. The primary use for Lometa is in seeding mixes for rangeland revegetation and cultivated pasture improvement. Lometa also has merit as a food and cover plant for wildlife and has been used along roadsides and park plantings as a beautification plant.

Breeder and foundation seed will be maintained by the SCS Knox City Plant Materials Center. Foundation seed is available to growers through the Foundation Seed Service, Texas A&M Univ., College Station, TX.

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 stover, scaly rhizomes. Lometa is late maturing, maintains green forage until frost, shows good drought tolerance, and has excellent regrowth abilities.

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Breeder and foundation seed will be maintained by the SCS Knox City Plant Materials Center. Foundation seed is available to growers through the Foundation Seed Service, Texas A&M Univ., College Station, TX.

REGISTRATION OF ATHABASCA OAT
(Reg. No. 300)

H. T. Allen and M. L. Kaufmann

Athabasca oat (Avena sativa L.) was developed at the Agriculture Canada Res. Stn., Lacombe, Alberta, from the cross 0A123-3/'Pendek' made in 1966. 0A123-3 was obtained from V. E. Burrows, Ottawa Res. Stn. Generations up to the F6 were advanced by the single seed descent method. Athabasca was selected in 1972 from 175 F1 lines. It was entered in the Alberta Regional tests in 1974 as 351-15 and was advanced to the Western Cooperative Oat Test in 1975 where it was tested for 3 years under the number OT725. In 1978 Athabasca was licensed (No. 1834) and has been assigned the Plant Gene Resources of Canada number CN0001792.

Athabasca is susceptible to Puccinia graminis Pers. f. sp. avenae Eriks. and E. Henn. and P. coronata Cda. f. sp. avenae Eriks. and E. Henn., Ustilago avenae (Pers.) Rostr. and U. kolleri Wille. It is moderately susceptible to barley yellow dwarf virus.

Athabasca is an early maturing cultivar with high kernel weight, good yielding ability and good lodging resistance. It is particularly adapted to the grey and black soils of Alberta. In the Alberta regional tests (1974-77) the yield of Athabasca equaled 'Random' and was 2% higher than 'Cavel'. It was earlier maturing than Random by 6.9 days and Cavell by 3.2 days. Only the late maturing cultivars 'Geminii' and 'Grizzly' had higher kernel weight.

The panicle is equilateral, longer and broader than Cavell and side branches are short and semi-erect. Leaves are medium wide, medium long, 10 cm shorter than Random, medium green and glabrous. The grain is medium wide, medium long, shorter than Cavell and less plump than 'Rodney'. The lemma has a medium pointed tip, few medium strong awns and is glabrous at the base. The rachilla is glabrous, medium wide and has a long rachilla on the second floret. The stem is medium in length, 8 cm longer than stems of Random and similar in length but thicker than stems of Cavell. Hull percentage is similar to that of Random. Oil is 0.3% less than Random and protein is 1.1% higher.

Initial seed stocks were increased at the Agriculture Canada Res. Stn., Regina, Saskatchewan, and were released to SeCan for further increase and distribution. Breeders seed is maintained at Regina.

REGISTRATION OF CASCADE OAT
(Reg. No. 301)

H. T. Allen and M. L. Kaufmann

Cascade spring oat (Avena sativa L.) was developed at the Agriculture Canada Res. Stn., Lacombe Alberta, from the cross 'Random'/'Forward' made in 1969. Generations up to the F6 were advanced by the single seed descent method. Cascade was...