A YIELD BLOSSOM SWEETCLOVER [*Melilotus officinalis* (L.) Lam.] (Reg. no. 42) was developed at the Agriculture Canada Research Station at Saskatoon Sask. and licensed as a Canadian cultivar on 27 Feb. 1970, with License no. 1255.

Yukon is a naturalized winter-hardy strain of ‘Madrid’ sweetclover. Approximately 545 kg of seed were brought into Saskatchewan from the United States for contract production of seed in May, 1950, by H.G. Neufeld Seed Company of Nipawin, Sask. Since that time no further commercial introductions of this foreign cultivar have been made. The initial field plantings of this cultivar suffered severe winterkill, particularly over the winter of 1953-1954, and natural selection has apparently eliminated all but the most winter-hardy plants. Uniform Regional Sweetclover Tests conducted from 1961 to 1969 throughout western Canada included the Madrid (Sask.) strain and Madrid obtained from the United States as a standard check of the original cultivar. The various seed stocks of Madrid (Sask.) used in the 1961-1969 Uniform Regional Sweetclover Tests were obtained from Newfield Seed Limited, Nipawin, Saskatchewan. Madrid (Sask.) was much more winter-hardy than Madrid (USA), and was consistently superior in forage and seed yields. Approximately 54 kg of seed of the cultivar was harvested in 1968 from a space-planted, mass-selected plot which was established from a commercial seed lot (S-7286) of Madrid (Sask.).

Yukon showed an 8% yield advantage over ‘Erector’ and 9% over Madrid over 70 station years from 1961 to 1969. In seed yield, Yukon had a decided yield advantage of 18% over Erector and 22% over its less hardy counterpart Madrid. Yukon is the most winter-hardy cultivar of sweetclover in Canada, being much harder than Madrid, and suffers even less winterkill than the recommended cultivars such as Erector and Arctic. Yukon is shorter than Madrid, particularly in the seedling year. It also flowers 1 to 3 days earlier, and is more tolerant of fall frosts and mowing in the seedling year. Yukon and Madrid are equal and outstanding in seedling vigor as compared with other sweetclover cultivars. A more detailed description and discussion of Yukon and its performance has been published (1).

Yukon is adapted to the same general area as all other sweetclover cultivars in Canada. The yields of Yukon and Madrid are very similar in Nebraska and South Dakota (Uniform Regional Sweetclover Tests). It is expected that Yukon could fulfill the market for all areas currently growing Madrid sweetclover.

Seed of Yukon sweetclover will be increased through Breeder, Foundation, and Certified seed classes. Breeder seed will be maintained by the Agric. Canada Res. Stn., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 0X2. The multiplication and distribution of Foundation and Certified seed is done by the Canadian Forage Seeds Project in cooperation with the Canadian Seed Trade Association.

B.P. GOPLEN (2)

References and Notes
2. Principal research scientist (forage legume breeding), Agric. Canada, Research Branch, Res. Stn., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7N 0X2. Registration by the Crop Sci. Soc. of Am. Accepted 27 Dec. 1983.

REGISTRATION OF VA 528 TOBACCO

‘VA 528’ BURLEY TOBACCO [*Nicotiana tabacum* L.] (Reg. no. 89) was developed and released by the Virginia Agricultural Experimental Station from a cross of the flue-cured cultivar, ‘Coker 187-Hicks’, with ‘Burley 37’. Progeny were self-pollinated to regain the duplicate recessive burley color genes and then were crossed with ‘Burley 64’. Va 528 was tested as experimental Va 1528 in the Virginia Burley Small Plot Test (two locations) for four years and Burley Farm Test (four locations) for 2 years (1977 and 1978) and approved for release by the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Variety Release Committee in 1978. It has been tested in the Virginia (VA), North Carolina (NC), Kentucky (KY), and Tennessee (TN) Burley Variety Test Plots from 1979 through 1982 as Va 528, the official cultivar designation. Va 528 was released in the F4 generation when released in 1978.

Va 528 is resistant to tobacco mosaic virus (TMV), and moderately resistant to Race 0 and Race 1 of black shank...