REGISTRATION OF ‘RANCHO’ ORCHARDGRASS

‘RANCHO’ orchardgrass (Dactylis glomerata L.) (Reg. no. 11), is a hay and pasture use cultivar developed by FFR Cooperative and released in 1983. Its experimental designation was FFR Syn O. Seed will be available through commercial channels in 1985.

Orchardgrass clones were visually selected in 1967 and 1970 from public cultivars, experimental lines and plant introductions at West Lafayette, IN. Polycross seed from these selections was used to establish solid-seeded progeny plots. The seven clones of Rancho were selected in 1974, based on clonal and polycross progeny test data for forage yield and leaf disease resistance.

Area of adaptation for Rancho is similar to that of ‘Able’ and ‘Potomac’, basically the area of extensive orchardgrass production. Rancho has been tested in Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Tennessee, and Virginia. It has shown higher levels of resistance to stem rust (caused by Puccinia graminis Pers. f. sp. dactylidis Guyot et Massinot) than Able or Potomac in FFR trials, resulting in more green material for late summer and fall harvests. Rancho is similar in heading date to Able, and several days later than ‘Hallmark’ or Potomac.

Rancho is produced as a three generation cultivar with breeder, foundation and certified seed. Vegetative portions of the parent clones are maintained by FFR Cooperative. Rancho was favorably reviewed by the National Certified Grass Variety Review Board in August 1983. Application of the parent clones are maintained by FFR Cooperative.

S. D. STRATTON, C. W. EDMINTON, AND R. R. RONNENKAMP (1)

References and Notes

1. Forage breeder, West Lafayette, IN; forage breeder, Salem, OR; and forage research director, FFR Cooperative, West Lafayette, IN 47906. Registration by the Crop Sci. Soc. Am. Accepted 27 Sept. 1984.

REGISTRATION OF PEARL MILLET INBREDS ‘TIFT 23B,E’ AND ‘TIFT 23A,E’

‘TIFT 23B,E’ (Reg. no. 14) pearl millet, Pennisetum americanum (L.) Leeke, was developed by selecting an early maturing plant from a selfed population of BC2 plants developed by backcrossing ‘Tift 23B’, to an early maturing mutant induced with ethyl methane sulfonate in Tift 23B. A single recessive gene locus conditions earliness in Tift 23B,E and has been designated $e_1$ (2). Tift 23B,E compared to Tift 23B, has shorter mature plant height (1.4 vs. 1.9 m), shorter heads (17.8 vs. 20.0 cm), narrower stem diameter, fewer seedpods (37 vs. 40) and length, fewer grains per head (1,440 vs. 1,577) and lower yield (1,254 vs. 1,468 kg per hectare).

‘TIFT 23A,E’ (Reg. no. 15) is cytoplasmic male sterile and was developed by using Tift 23B,E as a maintainer on ‘Tift 23A’, This has been done for six generations and makes Tift 23A,E near-isogenic to Tift 23B,E. Tift 23A,E should make an excellent male line producing 1.5-2.5 m tall grain hybrids. Breeder seed of these inbreds will be distributed by the Georgia Coastal Plains Experiment Station, GA 31795.

WAYNE W. HANNA AND GLENN W. BURTON (3)

Reference and Notes