other grants, and gifts. Additional support was received from the United States Golf Association Green Section Res. and Education Fund, Inc. Publication no. D-15166-12-87, New Jersey Agric. Exp. Sta. Registration by the CSSA. Accepted 30 April 1988. *Corresponding author.


REGISTRATION OF 'NORTTRAN' TUFTED HAIRGRASS

'Nortran' tufted hairgrass [Deschampsia caespitosa (L.) Beauv.] (Reg. no. 113) (PI 518658) was developed at the Palmer Research Center of the Alaska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, for revegetation, forage, and low-maintenance ground cover for north-latitude locations. Notice of the release of the cultivar was published in July 1986 (1). Nortran is believed to be the first cultivar developed of this species of grass; however, 'Norcoast', a cultivar of the closely related species Berin hairgrass (D. beringensis Hulten), was previously released by this experiment station (2).

Nortran is a tufted grass with narrow leaves produced mostly in a basal clump overtopped by flowering culms with relatively long, diffuse inflorescences. Nortran generally has shorter, narrower leaves that are darker green than those of Norcoast. Inflorescences of Nortran tend to be bronze to gunmetal gray in color compared with the straw color of those of Norcoast. Spikelet parts and stature of Nortran are shorter than those of Norcoast. Nortran is open pollinated. The species tufted hairgrass is widely distributed in circum-polar regions. In Alaska, tufted hairgrass has a more inland distribution than the coastally oriented Bering hairgrass.

Nortran is based on indigenous collections of tufted hairgrass made in Alaska and Iceland from which were derived four component lines of breeding material. IAS 371 and IAS 284 are selections out of a collection made in Iceland; IAS 239 was collected at Galena, AK, along the Yukon River; and IAS 458 is a selection from a collection made in the Talkeetna Mountains north of Palmer, AK. The selections showed evidence of superior winterhardiness. Trials of the component lines, the parental populations, and a composite, IAS 560 that included IAS 371 and 284, were used to gain performance data for comprising the cultivar. Each line is seed-propagated in isolation. Breeder seed is comprised of pure, live seed equalling 30% IAS 371, 20% IAS 284, 25% IAS 239, and 25% IAS 458.

Component lines and parent materials tested in revegetation trials at stripmine sites have demonstrated adaptation from central interior to southcentral Alaska (3). They have persisted well on low fertility sites with near neutral to strongly acidic soils. Tufted hairgrass entries were the most successful of a number of grasses tested at a short-season alpine site on an allophanic, acidic soil. Nortran appears resistant to rusts and snow molds (such as the mold caused by Sclerotinia borealis Buback & Vleugel) that adversely affect some other grasses. Breeder lines of Nortran have shown the ability have been more persistent under harvest pressure than has Norcoast Bering hairgrass. The new cultivar is competitive in a mixture with 'Nugget' Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis L.), the best bluegrass for revegetation and for stored forage as well.

Nortran provides a course but dense ground cover competitive in a mixture with 'Nugget' Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis L.), the best bluegrass for revegetation and for stored forage as well.

Seed classes of Nortran are limited to breeder seed, and certified. Breeder seed will be available from the Alaska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station. Foundation seed is distributed through the Alaska Seed Growers, Inc. Registration by CSSA. Accepted 30 April 1988.

REGISTRATION OF 'KENAI' POLARGRASS

'Kenai' polargrass [Arctagrostis latifolia (Racib.) Reg. no. 114) (PI 518659) was developed at the Palmer Res. Ctr., Palmer, AK 99645, by the Univ. of Alaska Fairbanks Agric. and Forestry Station, University of Alaska Fairbanks for forage and revegetation purposes. Notice of release of 'Kenai' polargrass was published in July 1987 (2). 'Alyeska' polargrass, previously released by this station (3), is the only other known cultivar of the species. Alyeska was released mainly for revegetation purposes in northern Alaska regions.

Kenai is a medium to tall grass about 60 cm in height, depending on growing conditions. Narrow lax leaves are produced along the erect, generally in a basal clump overtopped by flowering culms. The species is grazed in the Rocky Mountains and in Iceland, where it is harvested in a mixture with 'Nugget' Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis L.), the best bluegrass for revegetation and for stored forage as well. Kenai is based on bulk seed collections of polargrass made in Iceland, where it is harvested for use in Iceland, where it is harvested. Kenai is based on bulk seed collections of polargrass made in Iceland, where it is harvested.