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REGISTRATION OF 'NORTNAN' TUFTED HAIRGRASS

'NORTNAN' 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 purposes in northern Alaska regions. 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 Benting 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 overlapped by flowering culms with relatively long, diffuse inflorescences. Nortran generally has shorter, narrower leaves 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 circumpolar 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 distributed through the Alaska Seed Growers, Alaska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station. Foundation and certified. Breeder seed will be maintained by the Foundation. Notice of release of the cultivar 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. Notice of release of the cultivar 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 0.5 m to 1.5 m in height, depending on growing conditions. Its relatively wide, lax leaves are produced along the erect, generally stout stems. In open stands it spreads conservatively by means of short, thick rhizomes, forming dense clumps. Inflorescences are open and lax to sometimes erect and narrow. The cultivar generally is light green in color, tending to be lighter colored than Alyeska. Kenai is open pollinated. Polargrass is a north-latitude species with a circumpolar distribution. It occurs throughout mainland Alaska in various plant communities. It is adapted to a wide spectrum of sites from boggby lowlands to dry sites, but prefers the moist to mesic end of the spectrum.

Kenai is based on bulk seed collections of polargrass made (i) near Mi. 134 of the Sterling highway and (ii) at the townsite of Kenai, both on the Kenai Peninsula, AK, accessioned as IAS 63 and IAS 60, respectively. The two collections, IAS 63 and IAS 60, are being perpetuated in isolated breeding

REGISTRATION OF 'KENAI' POLARGRASS

'KENAI' polargrass [Arctagrostis latifolia (R. Br.) Griseb.] (Reg. no. 114) (PI 518659) was developed at the Palmer Research Center of the Alaska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, University of Alaska Fairbanks for forage and revegetation purposes. Notice of release of the cultivar 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 0.5 m to 1.5 m in height, depending on growing conditions. Its relatively wide, lax leaves are produced along the erect, generally stout stems. In open stands it spreads conservatively by means of short, thick rhizomes, forming dense clumps. Inflorescences are open and lax to sometimes erect and narrow. The cultivar generally is light green in color, tending to be lighter colored than Alyeska. Kenai is open pollinated. Polargrass is a north-latitude species with a circumpolar distribution. It occurs throughout mainland Alaska in various plant communities. It is adapted to a wide spectrum of sites from boggby lowlands to dry sites, but prefers the moist to mesic end of the spectrum.

Kenai is based on bulk seed collections of polargrass made (i) near Mi. 134 of the Sterling highway and (ii) at the townsite of Kenai, both on the Kenai Peninsula, AK, accessioned as IAS 63 and IAS 60, respectively. The two collections, IAS 63 and IAS 60, are being perpetuated in isolated breeding