is maintained by the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, E. Lansing, MI 48824, in cooperation with the Michigan Foundation Seed Association.

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References and Notes


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REGISTRATION OF ‘RHIZO’ KURA CLOVER

‘RHIZO’ kura clover (Trifolium ambiguum Bieb.) (Reg. no. 79; PI 325489) is a cool-season, rhizomatous, perennial legume developed by the USDA Soil Conservation Service and released in 1988, in cooperation with the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station.

The cultivar is a seed increase of a strain (PI 325489) introduced from the Soviet Union. After being chosen as one of the 21 most vigorous accessions of kura clovers, RHIZO was evaluated at the Quicksand Plant Materials Center and the University of Kentucky Agronomy Department from 1972 through 1988. RHIZO was the superior strain based on vigorous rhizomatous growth, persistence, disease and insect resistance.

RHIZO has been evaluated for forage quality and yield. A 1981 study in Rosemount, MN showed crude protein percentage about equal to ‘Spreader II’ alfalfa (Medicago sativa L.), with in vitro digestible dry matter 81.4% as compared to 71% for Spreader II. Seed production at Quicksand, KY ranges from 112 to 224 kg/ha.

Tests at the University of Kentucky during 1983 to 1985 showed RHIZO to yield more than zigzag clover (Trifolium medium L.) about equal to white clover (Trifolium repens L.) and less than red clover (Trifolium pratense L.), and alfalfa when managed for hay. The potential use of RHIZO kura clover appears to be as a pasture legume. The strongly thickened rhizomes of RHIZO may help to maintain stands in pastures with grasses, because the stand of RHIZO may also be increased by seed, the third characteristic of RHIZO.

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Don has been evaluated in advanced yield tests in Illinois since 1979, in the Uniform Early Oat Nursery since 1981, and in the Uniform Midseason Oat Nursery from 1981 to 1985. Based on data from Illinois and in the Uniform Midseason Oat Nursery, Don is a high-yielding early-maturing cultivar with higher yielding that most other cultivars of similar maturity and has been near the top when compared to late cultivars. It has short straw, but is susceptible to lodging. Don has excellent resistance to lines of crown rust, Puccinia coronata Eriks. and E. Henn., and to smut, Ustilago avenae Zimm., and to blotch, Puccinia graminis Pers. f. sp. avenae. It has been near the top when compared to midseason and late cultivars. It has short straw, but is moderately susceptible to stem rust, Puccinia graminis Pers. f. sp. avenae, and has been near the top when compared to late cultivars. It has been selected for uniformity.

Don resulted from a cross of ‘Coker 234’ and ‘Orbit’ with CI8168, a high yielding midseason oat with better lodging resistance. Lang, Don has similar height and maturity, equal or better test weight and more attractive kernels. Lang is only moderately tolerant to barley yellow dwarf virus.

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