CUCAMONGA CALIFORNIA BROMEGRASS
(Reg. No. 13)
H. W. Miller

'Cucamonga' California brome Bromus carinatus (Hoep. & Arn.) is a very rapidly developing reliable self-seeding annual grass. Information on Cucamonga has been published. It is a domesticated strain, native to the Mediterranean type climatic area of California, originally collected near Cucamonga, in San Bernardino County. Cucamonga plants are pale green in color, erect in habit, with long and luxuriant panicles. Sheaths and leaves are sparsely pilose to nearly glabrous. Awns are long, requiring processing of the seed before it can be drilled.

Cucamonga brome has large seed, strong seedling vigor and begins to grow with the onset of the first effective fall rains. Its rate of growth during the winter months exceeds that of any other annual. It reaches maturity ahead of 'Blando' brome (Bromus mollis L.) and 'Wimmera 62' ryegrass. Cucamonga is best suited as a covercrop and for ground cover on droughty, low fertility sites for which no other grass is commonly available. It is especially promising as a quick cover for erosion control on brush-burns. Its value for forage is limited by its short green feed period.

In vineyards, Cucamonga brome matures early in the spring, usually before grapes leaf out and thus takes a minimum of moisture from the crop. Sub-surface tillage with a blade when the seed is in the soft dough, insures a good stand the following year. Cucamonga's superiority over other self-seeding annuals, such as Blando brome and Wimmera 62 ryegrass, is greatest in low rainfall years and on droughty, infertile sites.

Cucamonga is attacked by head smut, but in seeded stands this can be effectively controlled by treating the seed with a mercuic fungicide. In volunteer stands sufficient good seed is usually produced for perpetuation. No other disease or insect problems are presently known on this strain.

Genetic identity and purity are maintained by limiting the number of generations of increase under seed certification. Breeder, foundation, registered, and certified seed are produced. The certified class is not eligible to produce certified seed. Breeder seed stocks are maintained by the SCS Pleasanton Plant Materials Center. Foundation seed is available from the SCS and from the Department of Agronomy, University of California at Davis. Certified seed is commercially produced.

WIMMERA 62 RYEGRASS
(Reg. No. 11)
H. W. Miller

'Wimmera 62' ryegrass Lolium rigidum (Gaud.) is a rapidly developing winter annual that matures early, yet three weeks later than Cucamonga California bromegrass. Reproduction and performance of Wimmera 62 have been realized in the Wimmera-Mallee areas of Victoria, Australia. The original seed was obtained from there in 1959. At that time, the name assigned to it was Wimmera 62 ryegrass. In volunteer stands sufficient good seed is usually produced for perpetuation. No other disease or insect problems are presently known on this strain.

Wimmera 62 is the best short-lived annual ryegrass available, not only a rapid erosion control cover is desired, but the yield performance is excellent. Wimmera 62 has no advantage over common ryegrass in areas of high humidity or on fertile soils, where rainfall exceeds 12 inches annually.

Wimmera 62 ryegrass is believed by some authorities to be a natural hybrid between L. rigidum and L. multiflorum. The principle characteristic which distinguishes Wimmera 62 ryegrass from other commercial annual ryegrasses is its lack of awns. The lemmas of Wimmera 62 are awnless or awn-tipped.

Wimmera 62 is deep, bright green in color, varying, depending upon rainfall, from 10 to 30 inches in height. Wimmera 62 is not a problem. This strain has no advantage over common ryegrass.

Table I—Yield comparisons from volunteer stands of Wimmera 62 ryegrass and common ryegrass at Sunol, California.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Grass plus Lana Vetch</th>
<th>Fertilized</th>
<th>Unfertilized</th>
<th>Fertilized - Unfertilized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>1380</td>
<td>747</td>
<td>633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wimmera 62</td>
<td>1588</td>
<td>2224</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference</td>
<td>756</td>
<td>934</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Ammonium phosphate-sulfate (16-20-0) at 200 lb./A. applied in the fall.

at maturity. Plants tend to lodge the first year of growth habit is in form growth habit, leafy, with numerous culms. Wimmera 62 is a sprawling growth habit. Wimmera 62 is the best short-lived annual ryegrass to use where only a rapid erosion control cover is desired. It does well on soils not subject to disease or insects, except in the coastal fog belt where rust sometimes attacks Wimmera 62 ryegrass. Wimmera 62 is not a problem. This strain has no advantage over common ryegrass in areas of high humidity or on fertile soils that exceed 12 inches annually.

Wimmera 62 ryegrass will be increased under the limited generation system. Breeder, Foundation, Registered, and Certified classes are permitted, but Certified class is not eligible to produce certified seed. Breeder seed is available from the SCS Pleasanton Plant Materials Center in accordance with the Foundation Seed Stock Agreement with the University of California, Department Station. Adequate quantities of Foundation and Certified seed of Wimmera 62 ryegrass will be available in the fall of 1963.

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