CROP REGISTRATIONS

REGISTRATION OF 'SURVENOLA' DIGITGRASS

'SURVENOLA' digitgrass (Digitaria × umfolozi Hall) (Reg. no. 136, PI 421785) is the first hybrid digitgrass to be released from Florida's tropical grass breeding program with this genotype. It was the result of interspecific hybridization and 15 yr of extensive testing of a selected F₁ at the University of Florida and other cooperating locations in Surinam, Venezuela, Brazil, Peru, Puerto Rico, Honduras, Mexico, and Malaysia. It was also evaluated in cooperation with the USDA-SCS, Plant Materials Center (PMC), Brooksville, FL. Survenola was tested as X46-2 and jointly released in July 1982 by the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station and USDA-SCS (1). Survenola was released because of its resistance to Pangola stunt virus (PSV) transmitted by the planthopper Sogata furcifera Horvath, and because of its high forage yielding ability. It is a vegetatively propagated hexaploid with 6x = 54 chromosomes.

Survenola originated from an F₁ progeny selection from the cross of Digitaria setivalva Stent (PI 299892) as the male parent and Digitaria valida Stent (PI 299850) as the male parent. Survenola is a stoloniferous, tufted perennial with erect culms. Survenola digitgrass does not resemble any of the currently released cultivars of Digitaria, in that the leaf blades are much wider (usually 10 to 13 mm wide). Stolons of Survenola are often 2 m in length and are glabrous. Survenola has leaf sheaths that are scabrous or rough to the touch, with occasional long hairs near the apex. The wide leaves and glabrous sheaths of Survenola serve to distinguish this cultivar from other cultivated digitgrasses.

The wide leaves and glabrous sheaths of Survenola serve to distinguish this cultivar from other cultivated digitgrasses.

Survenola can be grown on sandy upland soil between Brooksville and Gainesville, FL, on Sparr fine sand (loamy, siliceous, hyperthermic Grossarenic Paleudult). It is not adapted to the wet Florida flatwoods soils: Myakka fine sand (sandy, siliceous, hyperthermic Aerie Haplaquod). Survenola originated from an F₁ progeny selection from the cross of Digitaria setivalva Stent (PI 299892) as the male parent and Digitaria valida Stent (PI 299850) as the male parent. Survenola is a stoloniferous, tufted perennial with erect culms. Survenola digitgrass does not resemble any of the currently released cultivars of Digitaria, in that the leaf blades are much wider (usually 10 to 13 mm wide). Stolons of Survenola are often 2 m in length and are glabrous. Survenola has leaf sheaths that are scabrous or rough to the touch, with occasional long hairs near the apex. The wide leaves and glabrous sheaths of Survenola serve to distinguish this cultivar from other cultivated digitgrasses.

Survenola can be grown on sandy upland soil between Brooksville and Gainesville, FL, on Sparr fine sand (loamy, siliceous, hyperthermic Grossarenic Paleudult). It is not adapted to the wet Florida flatwoods soils: Myakka fine sand (sandy, siliceous, hyperthermic Aeric Haplaquod). Survenola was introduced into many South and Central American countries and was cooperatively evaluated in Surinam, Venezuela, Brazil, Peru, Puerto Rico, Honduras, Mexico, and also in Serdang, Selangor (Malaysia). In a tri-country cooperative research publication (2), Survenola was found to be superior in field resistance to PSV. Parental breeding lines were tested in both Surinam and Guyana over an 8-yr period to screen for resistant lines.

Survenola was released because of its resistance to Pangola stunt virus (PSV) transmitted by the planthopper Sogata furcifera Horvath, and because of its high forage yielding ability. It is a vegetatively propagated hexaploid with 6x = 54 chromosomes.

Survenola originated from an F₁ progeny selection from the cross of Digitaria setivalva Stent (PI 299892) as the male parent and Digitaria valida Stent (PI 299850) as the male parent. Survenola is a stoloniferous, tufted perennial with erect culms. Survenola digitgrass does not closely resemble any of the currently released cultivars of Digitaria, in that the leaf blades are much wider (usually 10 to 13 mm wide). Stolons of Survenola are often 2 m in length and are glabrous. Survenola has leaf sheaths that are scabrous or rough to the touch, with occasional long hairs near the apex. The wide leaves and glabrous sheaths of Survenola serve to distinguish this cultivar from other cultivated digitgrasses.