REGISTRATION OF ‘PHYTER’ TALL FESCUE

‘PHYTER’ tall fescue (Festuca arundinacea Schrdb.) (Reg. no. CV-42, PI 383330) is a low-endophyte, hay and pasture use cultivar developed and released in August 1986 by FFR Cooperative. Its experimental designation is FFR Syn W.

Phyter is an 11-clone synthetic, whose parentage traces to ‘Kentucky-31’. Seven hundred tall fescue plants were selected in 1973 from several Kentucky-31 seed fields estimated to be at least 15 years old. Selection was based on color, vigor, and general appearance. Selected clones were established at West Lafayette, IN, in a replicated poly crown block in 1974. Polycross progeny seed was harvested in 1975 and used to plant solid-seeded progeny plots in 1976. In 1979, 120 selections were made from these progeny plots based on height and vigor and placed in a space-planted nursery at West Lafayette, IN. The 11 clones of Phyter were collected in 1981, based on clonal evaluations for spring vigor, summer and fall color, and moisture content of summer regrowth herbage.

Phyter’s area of adaptation is similar to that of Kentucky-31. It is similar to Kentucky-31 in heading date and several days later than ‘Fawn’, ‘Forager’, and ‘Au- Triumph’. Color ratings show Phyter to be darker in color and to have a higher moisture content in summer regrowth herbage than Kentucky-31. Resistance of Phyter to crown rust (caused by Puccinia coronata Cda.) and stem rust (caused by Puccinia graminis Pers.Pers.) is similar to Kentucky-31 and higher than ‘Kenhy’.

Phyter will be maintained as a three-generation cultivar: breeder, foundation and certified. Certified seed may be grown from either breeder or foundation seed. Vegetative portions of the 11 original clones are maintained by FFR Cooperative at West Lafayette, IN.

Phyter was approved by the National Grass Variety Review Board in March 1987 and was granted U.S. Plant Variety Protection (Certificate no. 8800076) in May 1988.

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References and Notes
1. FFR Cooperative, 4112 East State Road 225, West Lafayette, IN 47906. Registration by CSSA. Accepted 31 Aug. 1990. *Corresponding author.

REGISTRATION OF ‘DELMAR’ ST. AUGUSTINEGRASS

‘DELMAR’ St. Augustinegrass [Stenotaphrum secundatum (Walt.) Kuntz] (Reg. no. CV-138, PI 542966), experimental designation 6-72-99, was developed by O.M. Scott & Sons Company. It was released by O.M. Scott & Sons in November 1986. DelMar was selected from the progeny of the controlled pollination of ‘Seville’ St. Augustinegrass (U.S. Plant Patent 4097) with pollen from a cold-tolerant selection obtained from Memphis, TN. DelMar was propagated vegetatively by stolons to provide genetically uniform planting stock for studying performance and for making comparisons to commercially available cultivars.

The internodes of DelMar are shorter and thicker than most commonly grown St. Augustinegrasses cultivars. Leaf blade and leaf sheath lengths are significantly shorter than ‘Floratam’, a widely grown cultivar in Florida. The difference in leaf blade length between DelMar and Floratam is accentuated under low light-intensity conditions, such as shade. The blade width of DelMar is equal to or wider than other St. Augustinegrasses. DelMar has a longer spike, a larger peduncle, and a larger flag leaf sheath than other St. Augustinegrasses except Floratam. Field observations of DelMar in comparison with other commercially available cultivars in Florida and Texas for >15 yr indicate that it has generally good turf quality characteristics throughout the year. However, its best turf performance is during the cooler winter and early spring months, and it avoids injury from occasional cold and freezing temperatures. DelMar has a pleasing green color throughout the growing season and is not as purple in the stem as most other St. Augustinegrasses. DelMar produces few flowering spikes, which improves the overall quality of the cultivar.

DelMar has shown resistance to St. Augustinegrass decline virus in laboratory tests, and in field studies in Florida it has shown a good level of resistance to gray leaf spot caused by (Blister grisea (Cooke) Sacc.) and dollar spot caused by (Sclerotinia spp.). DelMar has also shown tolerance to chinchbugs (Blissus spp.) and sod webworm (Crabrus spp.) equal to most other St. Augustinegrasses. DelMar produces few flowering spikes, which improves the overall quality of the cultivar.

Vegetative propagation of DelMar is limited to two cycles of increase from breeder sod: one of foundation sod and one of commercial sod. Breeder sod is maintained by O.M. Scott & Sons and small quantities of vegetative material are available for evaluation. U.S. Plant Patent 6372 has been issued for DelMar.

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References and Notes
1. T.P. Riordan, Dep. of Horticulture, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68583-0724 (formerly O.M. Scott & Sons); and WC Mixson and V.D. Meier, O.M. Scott & Sons, Marysville, OH 43042. Registration by CSSA. Accepted 31 July 1990. *Corresponding author.

REGISTRATION OF ‘AMONT’ GRAIN AMARANTH

‘AMONT’ (Reg. no. CV-2, PI 538255), NSSL no. 251810.01, is a white-seeded grain amaranth (Amaranthus cruentus L.)