REGISTRATION OF ‘WL 225’ ALFALFA

‘WL 225’ ALFALFA (Medicago sativa L.) (Reg. no. CV-167, PI 550722) was developed by W-L Research, Inc. This cultivar was tested under the experimental designation 84-11 and released in September 1987.

WL 225 is a synthetic variety composed of 198 plants selected for resistance to verticillium wilt (caused by Verticillium albo-atrum Reinke & Berthier), following one cycle of phenotypic recurrent selection for resistance to phytophthora root rot (caused by Phytophthora megasperma Drechs. f. sp. medicaginis T. Kuan & D.C. Erwin) and verticillium wilt. The original population represented near equal germplasm contributions from each of five experimental lines identified on the basis of high forage yield potential and superior persistence. Plants in the five experimental lines were selected after scoring for resistance to one or more of the following: bacterial wilt [caused by Clavibacter michiganense subsp. insidiosum (McCulloch) Davis et al., 1984], fusarium wilt [caused by Fusarium oxysporum Schlechtend. Fr. f. sp. medicaginis (J.L. Weimer) W.C. Snyder & H.N. Hans.], anthracnose (Race 1) (caused by Colletotrichum trifolii Bain & Essary), stem nematode [Ditylenchus dipsaci (Kühn) Filipjev], spotted alfalfa aphid [Theroaphis maculata (Buckton)], and pea aphid [Acyrthosiphon pisum (Harris)]. Source material traces primarily to ‘Vernal’, ‘Ranger’, ‘Grimm’, and ‘Vertus’, with lesser contributions from ‘Beltsville 3 ANR 4’, ‘Travois’, ‘WL 218’, ‘WL 219’, ‘WL 307’, and ‘WL 309’.

The fall dormancy of WL 225 is similar to that of Vernal. WL 225 has high resistance to bacterial wilt, fusarium wilt, and phytophthora root rot; resistance to verticillium wilt, pea aphid, and spotted alfalfa aphid; moderate resistance to anthracnose and northern root-knot nematode (Meloidogyne hapla Chitwood); and low resistance to stem nematode. WL 225 is a fall-dormant cultivar adapted for forage use in the northwestern, midwestern, and northeastern regions of the USA. Approximately 94% of the flowers are purple to dark purple in color, ≈5% blue and blue variegated, and ≈1% yellow, with a trace of cream flowers.

One generation each of breeder (Syn 1), foundation (Syn 2), and certified (Syn 3) seed is recognized. Breeder seed was produced under cage isolation at Warden, WA. Sufficient foundation seed was produced at Nampa, ID, for the life of the cultivar. In 1989, WL 317 received a favorable review from the National Alfalfa Variety Review Board. Plant Variety Protection 8900266 was granted on 9 July 1990.

J. L. Kugler, D. E. Huset, and M. A. Peterson

References and Notes


REGISTRATION OF ‘WL 317’ ALFALFA

‘WL 317’ ALFALFA (Medicago sativa L.) (Reg. no. CV-170, PI 550723) was developed by W-L Research, Inc. This cultivar was tested under the experimental designation 85-126 and released in September 1989.

WL 317 is an 83-plant synthetic variety resulting from an intercross between two parental clones each screened for anthracnose (Race 1), phytophthora root rot resistance. Parental germplasm traces primarily to ‘Vernal’ (30%), ‘Vertus’ (21%), and ‘Saranac’ (9%), with a lesser contribution from ‘Ranger’ (5%).

The fall dormancy of WL 317 is similar to that of Vernal. WL 317 has high resistance to bacterial wilt [caused by Clavibacter michiganense subsp. insidiosum (McCulloch) Davis et al., 1984], fusarium wilt [caused by Fusarium oxysporum Schlechtend. Fr. f. sp. medicaginis (J.L. Weimer) W.C. Snyder & H.N. Hans.], phytophthora root rot [Acyrthosiphon pisum (Harris)]; resistance to verticillium wilt, anthracnose, spotted alfalfa aphid [Theroaphis maculata (Buckton)], and stem nematode; and moderate resistance to northern root-knot nematode (Meloidogyne hapla Chitwood). WL 317 is a fall-dormant cultivar adapted for forage use in the northwestern, midwestern, and northeastern regions of the USA. Approximately 94% of the flowers are purple to dark purple in color, and ≈5% blue and blue variegated.

One generation of breeder (Syn 1) and each of foundation (Syn 2 or 3) and certified (Syn 3 or 4) seed classes are recognized. Breeder seed was produced under cage isolation at Bakersfield, CA. Sufficient foundation and certified seed, respectively, received a favorable review from the National Alfalfa Variety Review Board. Plant Variety Protection 8900266 was granted on 9 July 1990.

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References and Notes