REGISTRATION OF CULTIVARS

Registration of ‘Putter’ Creeping Bentgrass

‘PUTTER’ CREEPING BENTGRASS [Agrostis stolonifera var. palustris (Huds.) Farw., (A. palustris Huds.)] (Reg. no. CV-3, PI 543248) was released in August 1988 by Jacklin Seed Company, Post Falls, ID, using germplasm obtained from the Washington State University Puyallup Research and Extension Center, Puyallup, WA. Following extensive bentgrass accession collection and screening for disease resistance in eastern and western Washington during the early 1970s, 26 clones originating from the Northwest and the USA were assembled in a crossing block at the Puyallup Center. Through two consecutive cycles of intercrossing and selection for number of seed heads and plant phenotype, 120 improved lines were selected and seed were composited to form AP-10. AP-10 provides the seed base for maternal breeder plants of Putter. AP-10 was evaluated for seed yield potential and turf performance in mowed trials at the station from 1976 to 1981. Plots were evaluated under sand putting green management for take-all patch disease [incited by Gaemannomyces graminis (Sacc.) Arx. & D. Olivier var avenae (E.M. Turner) Dennis] resistance, annual bluegrass (Poa annua L.) encroachment, turf quality, and deep bluegreen color. Plots were also evaluated for adequate floret fertility. A breeder field of Putter was planted in summer 1985 near Salem, OR. A pollen parent with high seed yield potential, BPA-163, was planted in alternating rows with AP-10 to enhance seed yield. BPA-163 is a single plant selection from the Puyallup breeding nursery that had the same color and growth characteristics as AP-10, but a slightly more robust growth habit. Breeder seed, first produced in 1986, was harvested from the AP-10 plants only. Putter was initially grown and tested under the experimental designation JB-101.

Putter creeping bentgrass has been evaluated through four successive generations of seed increase and has proven to be a stable and uniform cultivar. All seedlots tested have produced turf of comparable quality and acceptable uniformity. The frequency of variant progeny in Putter is less than 5%. Aberrant progeny are rogued from seedstock fields to ensure continued uniformity and stability, but continue to occur in every generation.

Putter is a moderately low-growing creeping bentgrass with an attractive, moderately dark-green color. In national testing, Putter has shown exceptional winter color and a medium spring greenup rate. Putter is capable of producing a moderately aggressive turf with a fine textured, upright leaf habit. Putter has demonstrated good resistance to brown patch (incited by Rhizoctonia solani Kühn), pythium blight (incited by Pythium spp.), take-all patch, and leafspot (incited by Drechslera spp.) disease. It has shown moderate resistance to chinch bug (Blissus arboreus L.) encroachment, turf poa (Poa annua L.) grasses, and southern greenbugs (Modicapsus octopunctatus). Putter has shown exceptional winter color and a medium spring greenup rate. Putter is capable of producing a moderately aggressive turf with a fine textured, upright leaf habit.

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References and Notes


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Registration of ‘Rocker’ Tanglehead

‘ROCKER’ TANGLEHEAD [Heteropogon contortus (Ex. Roem. & J.A. Schultes)] (Reg. no. CV-39, PI 163476) was released by the USDA-SCS, USDA-ARS, University of Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station in 1992. The cultivar will be used as an erosion control plant in southern Arizona and New Mexico, the Gulf Coast, and the mountains of western Texas.

Rocker is the product of a testing program superior ecotype of tanglehead that was taken from the Plant Material Center (TPMC). The line was established in 1986 and consisted of 26 accessions of C.1. Four accessions were selected out of the superior biomass and seed production. This accession was harvested and maintained in a spaced-plant, mass selection block. Rocker was selected from this population based on robust appearance and late flowering. This accession was harvested in 1986, was planted from the seed of hybrid 70 in 1992. The cultivar will be used as an erosion control plant in southern Arizona and New Mexico, the Gulf Coast, and the mountains of western Texas.

Rocker was selected for use in gully erosion. Tanglehead can produce seedlings in areas where extra run-in moisture is available. The combination of high palatability permits seed production where other species may be too closely grazed to do so.

Tanglehead is an aposporous apomict, the chromosome number for this species is 2n = 70, and it is a C, grass and virtually all growth occurs in the summer season.”