

Registration of ‘Alpha’ Soybean

‘Alpha’ soybean [Glycine max (L.) Merr.] (Reg. no. CV-313, PI 564524) was developed by the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station. It was released in February 1992 because of its combination of earliness and resistance to soybean cyst nematode (SCN; Heterodera glycines Ichinohe) Race 3 compared with other public cultivars.

Alpha was derived from an F4 plant from the cross ‘Fayette’/‘McCall’ (1,3). The population was advanced by the single-pod bulk method to the F4 generation in Chile and Minnesota. The F5 plants were screened in the field against Race 3 of SCN. F6 plants were screened in the greenhouse against Race 3 of SCN. Alpha was yield-tested in Minnesota under both SCN infested and noninfested conditions from 1986 through 1991 under the designation M85-610. It was evaluated in the Regional Soybean Cyst Nematode Test, Group I, from 1988 through 1991 (4). M85-610 was also evaluated in the Uniform Soybean Tests, Northern States, Uniform Test I, from 1989 through 1991 (6).

Alpha is classified as Group I maturity (relative maturity 1.4), averaging = 2 d earlier than ‘Hardin’ and = 8 d earlier than ‘Bell’ (2,5). It is best adapted to latitudes 43° to 46° N. Alpha has an indeterminate growth habit, purple flowers, tawny pubescence, and tan pods at maturity. Seeds are yellow, with yellow hila and intermediate seed coat luster. Under SCN-infested conditions, Alpha exhibited a yield advantage over Hardin of ~23% (4). Under noninfested SCN conditions Alpha has a yield potential ~9% lower than Hardin (4). Alpha has a slightly poorer lodging score than Hardin (2.7 vs. 2.4 on a scale of 1 = all plants erect to 5 = all plants prostrate). Plant resistance to SCN was confirmed during seed production.

References and Notes


Registration of ‘Cinnamon’ Red Clover

‘Cinnamon’ red clover (Trifolium pratense L.) (Reg. no. CV-24, PI 566954) was developed by FFR Cooperative and released in 1992. The cultivar was tested experimentally as SX8402 and RCSX8402.

Cinnamon originated as a cross among three FFR breeding populations that had been selected for resistance to anthracnose (caused by Aureobasidium caulis) and southern anthracnose (caused by Collectotrichum trifolii). These populations trace primarily to the cultivars Arlington, Redman, Chesapeake, and Lakeland, with smaller contributions from numerous other sources. The resulting open-pollinated seed was used to initiate two cycles of sequential selection in the greenhouse for resistance to northern and southern anthracnose and powdery mildew (caused by Phialophora gregata [Allington & D.W. Chamberlain] W. Gams). samples of Cinnamon for research purposes can be obtained from the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station.

Cinnamon was released in February 1992 because of its combination of earliness and resistance to soybean cyst nematode (SCN; Heterodera glycines Ichinohe) Race 3 compared with other public cultivars. It has shown superior forage yields and persistence in the Upper Midwest, Northeast and Mid-South regions of the USA.