Registration of ‘Palmer II’ Perennial Ryegrass

‘Palmer II’ perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne* L.) (Reg. no. CV-160, PI 561707) was developed through cooperative efforts of Lofts Seed of Bound Brook, NJ, Pure-Seed Testing of Hubbard, OR, and the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station. It was released in August 1992 by Lofts Seed. Palmer II was evaluated under the experimental designation P-89.

Palmer II is an advanced-generation synthetic cultivar selected from the maternal progenies of 40 clones. Each of these clones contained a fungal endophyte, *Acremonium lolii* Latch, Christiansen & Samuels. Perennial ryegrasses containing selected strains of *acremonium* endophytes have shown enhanced resistance to many harmful turfgrass insects, greater persistence and improved performance under some, but not all, conditions (1,2,3).

Most of the parental germplasm of Palmer II traces to plants selected from old turfs in Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey from 1962 to 1977. Subsequent generations derived from intercrossing these plants were subjected to several cycles of phenotypic and genotypic recurrent selection. This included screening seedlings for disease resistance, clonal evaluation in spaced-plant nurseries, and half-sib progeny evaluation in seeded turf trials subjected to frequent, close mowing. Plants selected from this program were subsequently crossed with plants related to ‘Palmer’ perennial ryegrass (4). These progenies were subjected to three additional cycles of selection starting in 1983.

The 60 parental clones of Palmer II were selected from a spaced-plant nursery at Adelphia, NJ, containing >4000 plants selected from closely mowed turf trials. These 60 clones were established in an isolated spaced-plant nursery prior to anthesis. Seed was subsequently harvested from 40 selected plants, each containing the fungal endophyte *A. lolii*.

An isolated nursery containing 2867 spaced plants was subsequently established near Hubbard, OR, using bulked seed of the 40 maternal parents of Palmer II perennial ryegrass. Plants were selected for medium-early maturity, dark color, upright growth habit of seed heads, resistance to leafspot [caused by *Drechslera dictyoides* (Drechs.) Shoemaker f. sp. *perenne* Braverman & Graham], resistance to leaf scald [caused by *Rhynchosporium orthosporum* R.M. Caldwell and *R. secalis* (Oudem.) J.J. Davis], and high seed yield potential. Plants not meeting these objectives were rogued before anthesis, and breeder seed was harvested from the 555 remaining plants. Certified seed was first harvested in 1992.

**Palmer II** is a medium-early-maturing, leafy, turf-type perennial ryegrass capable of producing a persistent, dense, low-growing, fine-textured turf with a bright, very dark green color. It has shown improved mowing quality, good summer performance, and good winter hardiness on well-drained soils. Palmer II has excellent seedling vigor, rapid tillering, and the ability to rapidly establish an attractive turf with good wear tolerance. It performs well under varying light intensities from full sun to moderate shade in regions where turf-type ryegrasses are well adapted. Palmer II is recommended for winter overseeding of dormant warm-season turfgrasses on golf greens, tees, fairways, and roughs. This cultivar is noteworthy for its resistance to many insect pests, disease resistance to foliage diseases such as leaf blight and leaf spot, and excellent quality as a seedling stage, making it suitable for seed production. It is recommended for winter overseeding of dormant warm-season turfgrasses on golf greens, tees, fairways, and roughs.

**References and Notes**


5. R.H. Hurley and V.G. Lehman, Lofts Seed, Inc., P.O. Box 1133, Dept. C-20, Hubbard, OR 97032; and W.K. Dickson, J.J. Davis, and C.R. Funk, Plant Sci. Dep., New Jersey Agric. Exp. Stn., Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, NJ 08903. Published by the New Jersey Agric. Exp. Stn. Some of this work was supported by the New Jersey Agric. Exp. Project no. 15166, supported by the New Jersey Agric. Exp. Stn. funds, other grants, and gifts. Additional support was provided by the U.S. Golf Assoc.-Golf CourseSuperintendent Div., and the Am. Res. Fund. Registration by CSSA. Accepted 31 August 1992. Published in Crop Sci. 34:539 (1994).

Registration of ‘VA-C 92R’ Peanut

‘VA-C 92R’ (Reg. no. CV-50, PI 561566) is a high-yielding, large-seeded, Virginia-type peanut (*Arachis hypogaea* var. *pink* L.) (Reg. no. CV-920, PI 561566) developed in 1992 jointly by the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, the USDA-ARS, and the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, the USDA-ARS. It was tested experimentally by the Virginia Peanut Variety and Quality Evaluation Program across all locations show VA-C 92R has superior yield compared with current cultivars (4). VA-C 92R averaged 7.8 and 4.6% higher yield for VA-C 92R and VA-C 92R respectively. This cultivar has been released for certification and is currently available for sale through the USDA-ARS. It is recommended for production in the Virginia market class. Average yield of VA-C 92R is 5.5% higher than current cultivars (4). VA-C 92R has excellent seedling vigor, rapid tillering, and the ability to rapidly establish an attractive turf with good wear tolerance. It performs well under varying light intensities from full sun to moderate shade in regions where turf-type ryegrasses are well adapted. VA-C 92R is recommended for winter overseeding of dormant warm-season turfgrasses on golf greens, tees, fairways, and roughs.