Registration of ‘Tahoe’ Alfalfa

‘Tahoe’ alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.) (Reg. no. CV-196, PI 584475) was developed by Forage Genetics. Tahoe was tested experimentally as 6J88, and released in 1995.

Tahoe is a synthetic cultivar with 782 parent plants selected for vigor in space-planted nurseries. The parent plants were previously screened for resistance to one or more of the following pests: verticillium wilt (caused by *Verticillium albo-atrum* Reinke & Berthier), phytophthora root rot (caused by *Phytophthora medicaginis* E.M. Hans. & Maxwell), anthracnose (caused by *Colletotrichum trifolii* Bain & Essary) Race 1, blue alfalfa aphid (*Acyrthosiphon kondoi* (Shinji)), pea aphid (*A. pisum* (Harris)), and spotted alfalfa aphid (*Therioaphis maculata* (Buckton)). The parents traced to four populations derived from strain crosses of ‘Mede’, ‘Express’, ‘Meteor’, and ‘Condor’ with multifoliolate plants selected from ‘Legend’ and AZMFA-1 (2). Germplasm sources (1) were: 1% *M. falcata*, 12% Ladak, 8% *M. varia*, 25% Turkistan, 11% Flemish, 9% Chilean, 1% Peruvian, 10% Indian, 10% African, and 13% unknown.

Fall dormancy of Tahoe is similar to that of ‘Lahontan’. Tahoe has high resistance to anthracnose Race 1, fusarium wilt [caused by *Fusarium oxysporum* Schlechtend.:Fr. f. sp. *medicaginis* (J.L. Weimer) W.C. Snyder & H.N. Hans.], phytophthora root rot, pea aphid, and spotted alfalfa aphid, resistance to blue alfalfa aphid, verticillium wilt, stem nematode [*Ditylenchus dipsaci* (Kühn) Filipjev], northern root-knot nematode (*Meloidogyne hapla* Chitwood), and southern root-knot nematode [*M. incognita* (Kofoid & White) Chitwood], and moderate resistance to bacterial wilt [caused by *Clavibacter michiganense* subsp. *insidiosum* (McCulloch) Davis et al., 1984]. Tahoe has been tested for forage yield in California and Idaho. Flower color is 98% purple and 2% variegated, with a trace of white, cream, and yellow.

One generation of breeder seed (Syn 1) and two generations each of foundation (Syn 2 or 3) and certified (Syn 3 or 4) seed classes are recognized. Breeder seed was produced under isolation at Nampa, ID, in 1992. Sufficient breeder seed was produced for the expected life of the cultivar. Stands of foundation and certified seed fields are limited to 3 and 6 yr, respectively. Tahoe was favorably reviewed by the National Alfalfa Variety Review Board in 1995. Application will not be made for U.S. plant variety protection.

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References and Notes