Registration of ‘Unique’ Kentucky Bluegrass

‘Unique’ Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis L.) (Reg. no. CV-52, PI 561040) was released by Pure Seed Testing, Inc., Hubbard, OR, in August 1991. The experimental designation of Unique was PST-C76. The first certified seed was produced in 1993.

Unique Kentucky bluegrass originated as a single apomorphic plant collected from an old turf area in Exeter, RI, in 1987. Seed from this plant was used to establish progeny turf evaluation plots in Oregon, New Jersey, and California. Seed yield potential was evaluated in Oregon.

During the fall of 1989, seed from collected plants was used to establish an isolated 1500-plant nursery near Hubbard. These plants were highly apomorphic and most were indistinguishable from each other and from their maternal parent. Offtypes were removed from the nursery, and the remaining 1455 plants were harvested as the first breeder seed of Unique during the summer of 1990.

Unique is a low-growing, fine-textured, bright-green cultivar that has exhibited good turf quality in trials throughout the USA. It has shown good tolerance to stripe rust (caused by Puccinia striiformis Westend.), leaf spot (caused by Drechslera poae [Baudys] Shoemaker), dollar spot (caused by Sclerotinia homoeocarpa F.T. Bennett), and stem rust (caused by Puccinia graminis Pers.:Pers.). Unique also has exhibited good drought tolerance, good winter color, and early spring green-up.

Unique was developed for turf uses, including lawns, parks, and golf course roughs. It should perform well in regions where Kentucky bluegrass is adapted, as a monostand or in blends with other Kentucky bluegrass cultivars. Unique may also be used in mixtures with turf-type fescue (Festuca arundinacea Schreb.), perennial ryegrass (Lolium perenne L.), and fine-leafed fescues (Festuca spp.).

Seed propagation of Unique is limited to two generations of breeder seed: one each of foundation and certified. Pure Seed Testing, Inc., maintains breeder seed of Unique in Oregon. U.S. plant variety protection (PVP certificate no. 9200129) has been granted for Unique Kentucky bluegrass.

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References and Notes
1. C.A. Rose-Fricker, Pure Seed Testing, Inc., P.O. Box 449, Hubbard, OR 97032; M.L. Fraser, Pure Seed Testing, Inc., P.O. Box 176, Rolesville, NC 27571; W.A. Meyer, Plant Science Dep., New Jersey Agric. Exp. Stn., Cook College, Rutgers Univ., P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, NJ 08903; and C.R. Skogley, Plant Science Dep., Rhode Island Agric. Exp. Stn., Univ. of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI 02881. Registration by CSSA. Accepted 31 Aug. 1998. *Corresponding author (mlkfraser@aol.com).


Registration of ‘MN Brite’ Barley

‘MN Brite’ (Reg. no. CV-275, PI 603050) is a spring barley malting cultivar. The donor of resistance to kernel diseases was ‘Chevron’ (Hordeum vulgare L.), and fine-leafed fescues (Festuca spp.). The recurrent selection line. Testing for disease and agronomic merit was conducted in state trials from 1995 to 1997, and in a region. MNBrite is intended for use as a feed and/or malting cultivar.

MNBrite is a six-rowed, smooth-awned, large-grained cultivar. Covered, medium-sized kernels have short hairs on the aleurone. The spike is medium lax. MNBrite is similar to Robust in height.

MNBrite has intermediate-level resistance to fusarium head blight (caused by Fusarium graminearum Sch. No. 9800183). Limited samples for research purposes are available upon request from the corresponding author for at least five years.

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References and Notes