During three consecutive years 1997 through 1999 when grown without any pesticides (Branch and Fletcher, 2001), Georgia-01R was found to have comparable or better resistance to early and late leafspots [caused by *Cercospora arachidicola* Hori and *Cercosporidium personatum* (Berk. & Curt.) Deighton, respectively] and TSWV as ‘Southern Runner’ (Gorbet et al., 1987) and ‘Florida MDR 98’ (Gorbet and Shokes, 2002). Georgia-01R also produced significantly higher yields and dollar values without pesticides as compared to these other multiple resistant cultivars, and when grown with recommended pesticides, Georgia-01R was found to be comparable to ‘Georgia Green’ (Branch, 1996) in TSWV resistance, pod yield, total sound mature kernel grade, and dollar value return per hectare. Preliminary field trials also shows Georgia-01R to have moderate resistance to white mold or stem rot (caused by *Sclerotium rolfsii* Sacc.), Cylindrocladium black rot (caused by *Cylindrocladium parasiticum* Crous, Wingfield & Alfenas), leafhoppers (*Empoasca fabae* Harris), and/or leaf scorch (caused by *Leptosphaerulina crassiasca* Sachet).

Georgia-01R has a spreading runner growth habit, tan testa color, and late maturity similar to Southern Runner, Florida MDR 98, and ‘C-99R’ (Gorbet and Shokes, 2002). Maturity is approximately 2 to 3 wk later for Georgia-01R than for Georgia Green in southern Georgia.

Georgia-01R has dark green foliage, prominent mainstem, and alternate branching pattern. Georgia-01R also has a significantly greater pod bulk density (346 vs. 316 kg m⁻³), more pronounced pod reticulation and constriction, approximately 10% more jumbo runner seed (riding a 8.33- by 19.05-mm slotted screen), significantly lower oil content (46 vs. 49%), and significantly higher oleic to linoleic fatty acid ratio (3.1 vs. 2.3) than C-99R. However, it is not significantly different from C-99R in number of sound mature seed count, blanchability, protein content, and roasted peanut flavor scores.

U.S. Plant Variety Protection is pending for Georgia-01R. Breeder seed of Georgia-01R will be maintained by the University of Georgia, Coastal Plain Experiment Station at Tifton. Foundation seed stock will be available from the Georgia Seed Development Commission, 2420 S. Milledge Avenue, Athens, GA 30605.

W.D. Branch*

References


University and the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station. This cultivar was released because it has a consistent forage yield and is early flowering.

AU Merit was derived from accession PI 206493 from the Plant Genetic Resources Conservation Unit, National Plant Germplasm System. In the Fall of 2000, a breeding nursery consisting of 1500 plants was established at Tallassee, AL. One cycle of recurrent restricted phenotypic selection was utilized to improve the population. AU Merit is made up of about 300 plants that were selected on the basis of biomass yield, uniform maturity, and plant morphological traits.

Additional traits considered during the selection process included earliness, vigor, and pest resistance.

AU Merit performs well in each of the main regions of the state of Alabama, thus it has a wide area of adaptability in the common type and AU EarlyCover (Mosjidis et al., 2002), which performs well in northern and southern areas. AU Merit is harvested or incorporated in the soil and manure about 1 April [time when many farmers get the plant corn (Zea mays L.)], it has a dry matter yield of 35% to common hairy vetch in southern Alabama, and at least 27% to 30% in central and northern Alabama. Compared to EarlyCover, AU Merit’s yield is superior in the N. In the S, it is similar in the central and southern part of the state. At 27% to 30% of common hairy vetch in 1997 and 1998, respectively.

AU Merit flowers earlier than common hairy vetch. It flowered five to 24 d earlier than common hairy vetch, an average of 13 d, and in 1998, 0 to 19 d earlier, an average of 7 d. Seed of AU Merit have mostly a dark coat but about 5% have a shiny seed coat. Its seedling is most commonly reddish epicotyls with about 40% gray whereas about 18% of common hairy vetch seedling is green epicotyls.

Foundation and Certified seed classes will be required. Breeder seed of AU Merit will be produced and marketed by Auburn University, Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station. U.S. Plant Variety Protection will not be applied.

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References


Registration of ‘Shiny Crow’ Black Beans

‘Shiny Crow’ black bean (Phaseolus vulgaris L.) (GCV-198, PI 617060) was developed by the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station and released 15 Apr. 2000.