Registration of ‘Claret’ Small Red Bean

‘Claret’ small red dry bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.) (Reg. no. CV-239, PI 635057) was developed and released by the USDA-ARS Sugar Beet & Bean Research Unit, East Lansing, MI, in 2003 as an upright growth habit Type IIA, early maturing, rust [caused by *Uromyces appendiculatus* (Pers.:Pers) Unger] resistant cultivar for double-cropping systems in the western USA.

Claret, tested as breeding line number ARS-R93365, was derived from a cross made in 1990 between the USDA-ARS accessions X90116 and X90124. X90116 and X90124, with complex pedigrees, were S<sup>2</sup> selections from the C<sub>3</sub> cycle of recurrent selection. Selection criteria were Type IIA growth habit (Singh, 1982), early maturity, and small red seed. The F<sub>1</sub> plants from the cross X90116/X90124 were self-fertilized in the greenhouse to obtain the F<sub>2</sub> seed. The F<sub>2</sub> was space planted in a nursery at the Saginaw Valley Bean and Sugar Beet Research Farm, Saginaw, MI. Seed from a single F<sub>2</sub> plant was advanced to the F<sub>3</sub> in nurseries alternately in Puerto Rico and Michigan. In 1993 seed from the F<sub>2</sub> breeding line coded 92T8942-06 was bulk harvested at Isabella, PR, returned to Michigan, and the breeding line was designated as ARS-R93365. Seed of ARS-R93365 was planted in replicated yield trials and evaluated in 12 tests in the bean production areas of mid-Michigan and Othello, WA. ARS-R93365 was also tested in the National Cooperative Dry Bean Nursery at 49 sites in North America. Claret was released on the basis of its earliness and interest by the dry bean industry for a second crop component of double-cropping farming systems.

Claret had an average yield of 2564 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> in tests in mid-Michigan and Othello, WA, between 1993 and 2002. Claret was compared with the small-red cultivars ‘Rufus’ and ‘Garnet’; Claret had a 15% lower yield than Rufus but was 8% higher yielding than Garnet. In 49 environments of the National Cooperative Dry Bean Nursery in the USA and Canada in 2000–2002, Claret had an average yield of 2697 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, which was 7% lower than LeBaron (Hang et al., 2000) in 2002 (S.P. Singh, 2001, personal communication; Hang, 2003, personal communication). Plants of Claret average 43 cm tall and exhibit a narrow-profile architecture (Adams, 1982). The upright growth habit and narrow profile of Claret confers superior lodging resistance when compared with the growth habit of Type III Rufus and Garnet (Singh, 1982). Claret has white flowers, blooms in 45 d, and matures in 87 d after planting. Dry seeds of Claret are burgundy red (Greyed-Purple Group 187 b–c) with a distinctly noticeable black hilum ring, which is typical of beans of the small-red market class (The Royal Horticultural Society, 2001). At the 12 locations in mid-Michigan and Washington, Claret had an average seed mass of 36 g per 100 seed. In tests in which comparisons could be made, the seed mass per 100 seeds of Claret was comparable to Rufus but was 24% greater than Garnet.

Claret exhibited a consistent and highly appealing canning quality, which enabled it to readily stand out from other small-red breeding lines in canning evaluations at the Michigan State University Pilot Processing Laboratory. This canning evaluation was based on whole bean integrity, uniformity of size of individual seeds, and clarity of the canning medium. Claret had an average canning no. CV-239, PI 635037) was developed and released by...