BEEDEE OATS
(Reg. No. 187)

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'BEEDEE', Avena sativa L., C.I.6752, is a plump kerneled spring oat variety first distributed in 1956 (1). It is the result of selecting in a cross of 'Beacon', a Canadian variety, and an unnamed selection of 'Hawkeye' × 'Victoria'. The unnamed selection, resulting from a cross made in 1935, was resistant to crown rust and Helminthosporium victoriaeand was moderately good agronomically. After crossing to Beacon in 1947, selection was successful for combining good agronomic type with crown rust resistance. Earlier, some workers, as reviewed by Simons and Murphy (6), believed it was impossible to combine resistance to these diseases if crown rust resistance was obtained from Victoria sources.

Crown rust readings under natural infection in Wisconsin were essentially the same for B. (10, 8). Beedee was not severely attacked in 1957 at Madison when a natural epiphytotic occurred. Hypersensitive reaction of Beedee is usually less than in Victoria.

Yield testing began in Wisconsin in 1951 and has continued. In the report of 1955 (9), Beedee was lower in yield than 'Ajax', 'Branch', or 'Sauk'. In later reports Beedee has had lower yields than 'Lodi', 'Garry', 'Sauk, Ajax, and 'Portage'. Yield has exceeded that of the 'Bond' group by about 15% for the 10-year period 1953-1962. Beedee was tested in the North Central tests 1953-1956 (2, 3, 4, 5) and averaged about 7% more yield than 'Clintland' from 1954-1956. Beedee seed is maintained by the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station.

Beedee has equalled or excelled Clintland in bushel weight (7, 8, 11) but has had a lower groat percentage (3, 4, 5). Hull color and grain shape are slightly variable. High bushel weight is probably an important reason why farmers like Beedee.