Registration of Crop Varieties

REGISTRATION OF SCOUT ALFALFA¹
(Reg. No. 28)
R. J. Buker²

'Scout' alfalfa, *Medicago sativa* L., is a winterhardy, wilt-resistant synthetic variety developed by Farmers Forage Research Cooperative. The eight parent clones³ trace to 'Vernal,' 'Buffalo,' 'Cossack,' 'Ladak,' 'Narragansett,' and 'Ranger.' They were selected for vigorous recovery and resistance to common leafspot, potato leafhopper, and bacterial wilt, and subsequently tested in diallel combinations. Scout was designated experimentally as FFR Syn B.

Tests in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Indiana indicate Scout is equal to Vernal in winterhardiness. Scout is more resistant to common leafspot and potato leafhopper damage than Ranger but has slightly less bacterial wilt resistance. Scout has performed well in replicated yield tests in Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, Massachusetts, and also in observation trials in Wisconsin, Kentucky, Virginia, and Washington. Scout appears to be adapted to intensive management in the area where Ranger and Vernal are grown.

The flower color of Scout is predominately purple with some green, cream, and white present. The leaf color is darker than Ranger. Although Scout recovers faster after cutting than Vernal, fall dormancy is similar. Scout, like Vernal, is variable from plant to plant in growth habit, leaf shape, and fall dormancy.

The parent clones will be maintained by Farmers Forage Research Cooperative. There will be a maximum of three sexual generations. Breeder seed will be the bulk harvested seed from interpollinating vegetative cuttings of the eight parent clones in an isolating planting. Foundation seed will be the first generation seed from breeder seed and will be produced in the Northern Area of Adaptation. Commercial seed designated as the variety Scout can be produced only when breeder or foundation seed is used as planting stock.

The first commercial seed was distributed in 1966.

REGISTRATION OF DAWSON ALFALFA¹
(Reg. No. 29)
W. R. Kehr²

'Dawson' alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.) was developed cooperatively by the Crops and Entomology Research Divisions of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station. It was named and released jointly by the Crops Research Division, USDA, and Nebraska and Illinois Agricultural Experiment Stations in January, 1967.

Dawson is an 8-clone synthetic variety tested experimentally as N.S. 27. Six clones were selected from North Central polycross progenies of clones that trace to 'Baltic,' 'Cossack,' 'Kansas Common,' 'Ladak,' and 'Turkistan.' Two clones were selected from parental strains of 'Ranger.'

Dawson has high resistance to pea aphids and spotted alfalfa aphids (both the parthenogenetic and sexual strains). It is intermediate in reaction to potato leafhoppers and common leafspot disease, similar to Ranger in reaction to bacterial wilt and other diseases, and between Ranger and 'Vernal' in winterhardiness, growth habit and recovery after cutting. Flower colors are purple, blue and variegated, with an occasional white flower. Dawson is similar to Ranger in protein and carotene contents at the 1/10 bloom stage, and slightly superior to Ranger at late stages of maturity in the presence of insects and leaf diseases.

Forage yields of Dawson in Nebraska and some North Central States were similar to the average of check varieties in the absence of destructive levels of insects or diseases for which the variety has resistance. The area of adaptation for forage production appears to be similar to Ranger. The anticipated usage is for short- and long-term stands.

Seed yields in California, Nebraska, Nevada, and Washington were satisfactory. Seed classes are breeder, foundation and certified. Breeder seed (Syn-1) is produced from rooted cuttings of the eight parental clones. Foundation seed (Syn-2) is the

¹ Registered by the Crop Science Society of America. Received Aug. 19, 1967.
² Director of Research, Farmers Forage Research Cooperative, Route 2, Box 290, Lafayette, Indiana.
³ Three clones were from Dr. W. W. Washko's breeding program, Eastern States Farmers Exchange, West Springfield, Mass.

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² Research Agronomist, Crops Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and Professor, Agronomy Department, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebr.