maintained and breeder seed will be produced by the Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station. Breeder seed shall be bulk seed harvested from an equal number of plants of the four parent clones grown in isolation. A 25-acre field was planted with breeder seed in the spring of 1967 for the production of foundation seed. Frequent received favorable consideration for certification by the National Certified Alfalfa Variety Review Board in 1967.

REGISTRATION OF ‘IROQUOIS’ ALFALFA

(Reg. No. 32)

R. P. Murphy and C. C. Lowe

‘Iroquois’ alfalfa (Medicago sativa L.) is a bacterial wilt-resistant variety similar to Narragansett developed by the Department of Plant Breeding, New York State College of Agriculture and Cornell University.

Iroquois was produced by backcrossing for two generations to ‘Narragansett’ and one generation to ‘Mark II’. ‘Vernal’ was the bacterial wilt-resistant nonrecurrent parent. Two generations of intercrossing with selection for wilt resistance and winter survival followed the backcrossing program. Seed from apparently pure interpollinated parent clones was composited and used to plant the breeder seed field.

Iroquois has the foliage and growth habit characteristics of Narragansett. Leaf disease tolerance, fall and winter dormancy, regrowth rate and flower color of Iroquois are similar to those of Narragansett. Iroquois has darker green foliage and a slightly more upright growth habit than Narragansett.

Iroquois has been tested extensively in the Northeastern States as WYN. Yield of Iroquois is equal or superior to Narragansett in the first two production years. As the age of the stand increases and, particularly, where wilt develops, Iroquois shows a distinct advantage to Narragansett in yield and persistence.

Seed of Iroquois is produced on a three-generation basis: breeder, foundation, and certified. Breeder seed will be maintained by Cornell University. Foundation seed is produced in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington under the direction of the New York Foundation Seed Stocks Cooperative, Inc. Certified seed of the variety Iroquois can be produced only from fields planted with foundation or breeder seed.

Iroquois was released in 1966 and was considered favorably for certification by the National Certified Alfalfa Variety Review Board in 1966.

REGISTRATION OF ‘MESA-SIRSA’ ALFALFA

(Reg. No. 33)


‘Mesa-Sirsa’ alfalfa (Medicago sativa L.) was developed by personnel of the Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station and the Entomology Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture. It was released in March 1965 by the Crops Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station. Its experimental designation was Stoneville P. C. 1.

Delta was developed by maternal line selection from plant selections made from old alfalfa fields in the Yazo-Mississippi Delta in 1948 and 1949. Six lines, chosen from a progeny row nursery in 1954 as being superior for survival, vigor, dark-green color, retention of leaves, and broadness of crown were used as the parents of Delta. Maternally, these lines traced to four plants selected in 1948 from an old field of ‘Dakota 12’ alfalfa near Leland, Miss. Dakota 12 had been grown on that farm for about 20 years and through three or four seed generations.

Stands of Delta have persisted at productive levels for 5 to 6 years in alluvial soil areas of the Lower Mississippi Valley. The persistence appears to be due to a tolerance to root and crown rust. Reaction to bacterial wilt is unknown.

Delta performed well in forage variety tests conducted at State College and Holly Springs, Miss., and in Lower Mississippi

REGISTRATION OF ‘DELTA’ ALFALFA

(Reg. No. 34)

Howard W. Johnson and Peter G. Hogg

‘Delta’ alfalfa (Medicago sativa L.) was released in 1965 by the Crops Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station. Its experimental designation was Stoneville P. C. 1.