REGISTRATION OF AURORA
ALSIKE CLOVER

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'Kenwell,' tall fescue (Festuca arundinacea Schreb.) was developed cooperatively by the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station and the Crops Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Kenwell is a synthetic variety that consists of 43 S_1 and S_2 clones representing three inbred lines selected for improved palatability when grazed free-choice by cattle.

Since 1958, the variety has been compared with commercial varieties of tall fescue for palatability and agronomic characteristics in numerous tests. In each test, Kenwell was significantly better grazed than certified seed varieties.

Relative palatability of Kenwell and 'Ky. 31' varieties was determined in one test during 1959 and 1960 by sampling portions of the varieties before and after grazing to obtain dry matter consumption. Results from the test, repeated grazed for a 2-year period, showed that cattle consumed 44% more dry matter of Kenwell than of Ky. 31 when the animals were given free-choice of both varieties.

Kenwell, which is less robust and less competitive than Ky. 31, is considered satisfactory in those characteristics. Kenwell has greater tolerance to certain leaf diseases and, consequently, maintains better color during dry periods and into winter.

The variety is approximately 5 to 10 days later maturing than 'Alta,' 'Fawn,' and 'Goar,' and Ky. 31 tall fescue at Lexington, Ky.

The difference between Kenwell and other commercial varieties in maturity, palatability, and competitive ability offers a better opportunity for maintaining associated legumes.

Kenwell and Ky. 31 tall fescue were compared for chemical constituents generally considered to be criteria of forage quality. Although the differences were not statistically significant, Kenwell was slightly higher in total sugar, crude protein, in vitro digestibility of dry matter, and lower in crude fiber than Ky. 31.

Seed propagation of Kenwell tall fescue is limited to three generations of increase from breeder seed, namely, one of foundation, registered, and certified. Breeder seed is maintained by the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station. Breeder seed originates from the 43 S_1 and S_2 clones used to develop the variety. Seed production from certified seed cannot be certified. Production of registered and certified Kenwell seed began in Kentucky in 1966 and 1967, respectively.

REGISTRATION OF BOREAL RED FESCUE

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'Boreal' red fescue, Festuca rubra L., was produced by the Canada Department of Agriculture, Regional Research Station, Beaverlodge, Alberta. It was licensed for sale in Canada, February 1966.

Boreal was developed as a general purpose variety for turf and pasture. Original selections were made in 1956 from rejuvenated commercial seed fields in Northern Alberta which had been seeded 10 to 15 years earlier to the 'Olds' red fescue. The 36 parent clones were selected on polylocust progeny performance for seed and herbage yields, maturity, and height. Syn 1 seed, used to establish the breeder seed plot, is constituted by mixing equal amounts of polylocross seed from each parent clone. The parent clones are maintained at Beaverlodge and will be used to reconstitute the variety as required.

Boreal was superior to Olds, 'Duraturf,' 'Pennlawn,' and 'Illahee' red fescue in seed and herbage yields and seedling vigor in comparative tests in Western Canada. It is more winter hardy than Pennlawn or Illahee and equal to Olds and Duraturf.

It tends to have a stronger creeping root system than these varieties. Boreal has a high degree of uniformity in the mature seed stand thus facilitating straight-combine harvesting in most seasons.

Seed of Boreal is increased on a three generation basis; breeder, foundation and certified. Breeder seed will be maintained at Beaverlodge by the Canada Department of Agriculture. Foundation seed is available through the Canada Forage Seeds Project.