REGISTRATION OF SONORA BLACK GRAMAGRASS
(Reg. No. 4)

L. Neal Wright

'SONORA' black gramagrass (Bouteloua eriopoda Torr.) was released jointly in 1965 by the Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station, the Agricultural Research Service, and the Soil Conservation Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Sonora, which carried the experimental designation A-4567-2 during the period of evaluation, is the first improved variety of black gramagrass for commercial seed production and range seeding. The variety was named after the Sonoran desert, a semiarid to arid grassland area of the southwestern United States and adjacent parts of Mexico where black gramagrass occurs abundantly over a wide altitudinal range.

Sonora has the many desirable characteristics of black gramagrass and in addition is superior in seed and forage production (1). The variety traces to 11 vegetative and 47 seed accessions collected in Arizona and New Mexico in 1957. From the space planted source nursery, 79 superior plants were selected and reevaluated in a replicated polycross nursery. Based on polycross progeny performance, 12 superior plants were selected and recombinated for production of Syn 1 seed. All 12 clones are diploid (2n = 20) and reproduce sexually (2).

Agronomic evaluation of Sonora shows outstanding performance in regard to leafiness, vigor, forage production, vegetative spread, components of seed set, and seed production when compared with the Flagstaff collection (3).

Sonora is limited to one generation each of breeder, foundation, and certified seed. Breeder seed, formed by blending equal amounts of seed from each of the 12 parent clones, is maintained by the Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station.

The yellow dwarf tolerance of Cayuse is expressed mainly as increased yield potential when grown under severe yellow dwarf conditions at Vancouver, Washington. In 1964 parts of each panicle were planted in Puyallup and at Pullman. The lines were rogued and populations containing off-type plants were discarded. The Puyallup harvest was used in the Northwest Regional Nursery, while the 204 lines grown at Pullman were harvested individually for the production of Foundation seed.

Cayuse was entered in the Northwest Regional Nurseries in 1965. Results of the 1965 and 1966 tests showed Cayuse to have outstanding yield potential and broad adaptability. In both years it was top yielder at both irrigated and non-irrigated locations.

Breeders' seed stock of Cayuse was derived from panicles taken in 1963 from vigorous plants of the Craig x Alamo line grown under severe yellow dwarf conditions at Vancouver, Wash. In 1964 parts of each panicle were planted in Puyallup and at Pullman. The lines were rogued and populations containing off-type plants were discarded. The Puyallup harvest was used in the Northwest Regional Nursery, while the 204 lines grown at Pullman were harvested individually for the production of Foundation seed.

Cayuse will be recommended in Washington and Northern Idaho. Foundation, registered, and certified seed will be available through the Washington State Crop Improvement Association.

REGISTRATION OF NOVA 66 RICE
(Reg. No. 30)


'Nova 66' rice (Oryza sativa L.) C. I. 9481, Sg 582114, originated as a single plant selection from 'Nova' (C.I. 9459) made at Stuttgart, Arkansas, in 1957. In preliminary tests it showed shorter and stiffer straw than Nova.

'Nova 66' rice (Oryza sativa L.) C. I. 9481, Sg 582114, originated as a single plant selection from 'Nova' (C.I. 9459) made at Stuttgart, Arkansas, in 1957. In preliminary tests it showed shorter and stiffer straw than Nova.

REGISTRATION OF NOVA 66 RICE
(Reg. No. 30)


'Nova 66' rice (Oryza sativa L.) C. I. 9481, Sg 582114, originated as a single plant selection from 'Nova' (C.I. 9459) made at Stuttgart, Arkansas, in 1957. In preliminary tests it showed shorter and stiffer straw than Nova.

'Nova 66' rice (Oryza sativa L.) C. I. 9481, Sg 582114, originated as a single plant selection from 'Nova' (C.I. 9459) made at Stuttgart, Arkansas, in 1957. In preliminary tests it showed shorter and stiffer straw than Nova.