REGISTRATION OF WL 210 ALFALFA
(Reg. No. 36)

D. F. Beard

‘WL 210’ alfalfa (Medicago sativa L.) is a 10-clone winter hardy, wilt resistant synthetic variety developed by the Waterman-Loomis Company and first offered for sale in 1968. Eight of the parent clones were derived from ‘Vernal’ or ‘Narragansett,’ and one from ‘Culver’ at a 2-year seed yield trial conducted at Bakersfield, California. Clonal selections had been based upon dark green foliage color and forage progeny performance prior to evaluation for seed yield.

WL 210 has produced about 10% more forage than Vernal in midwest yield trials when harvested four times each year. In northern Illinois tests it has been comparable to ‘Ranger’ and Vernal in winter survival. Late fall regrowth has averaged about 2 inches more than Vernal and 1 inch more than WL 202 where Vernal has produced 5 inches of upright growth. Its dark green foliage color has been distinctive when compared with older standard varieties of similar adaptation.