range in color from dark purple to variegated with approximately 5% white and yellow.

WL 210 was favorably reviewed by the National Certified Alfalfa Variety Review Board at its December 1967 meeting, and subsequently approved for certification.

Breeder seed is produced by natural cross pollination of the 10 parent clones grown in isolation in Kern County, California. Foundation seed is produced in the northern region of adaptation only from breeder seed. Certified seed will be grown only from breeder or foundation seed. No other class of stock or commercial seed is planned or authorized for WL 210 to assure stability of performance.

Founders' seed is produced in the northern region of adaptation only from breeder seed for growing foundation seed. Certified seed will be grown only from breeder or foundation seed. No other class of seed is to be produced to assure superior performance.

REGISTRATION OF WL 214 ALFALFA1

D. F. Beard2

'WL 214' alfalfa (Medicago sativa L.) was developed by the Waterman-Loomis Company and first offered for sale in 1968. Its parentage traces to 82 spotted aphid resistant progenies from 'Atlantic,' 'Vernal,' 'Ranger,' 'Nebraska 67-2813,' and 'Grimm' and 7 plant introductions. From this 82-progeny block, 1 to 14 plants (total of 244) from the best 49 progenies in wilt resistance were bulk harvested as 62 WB. WL 214 combines fast recovery with winter hardiness and moderately high resistance to the bacterial wilt organism. Its persistence and winter hardiness has been similar to Ranger. Late fall regrowth has been about 2 inches greater than that of WL 210 and an inch more than that of WL 210. At locations north of the 40° parallel WL 214 is similar to Buffalo in fall dormancy but significantly superior to it in winter survival. The flowers of WL 214 are predominantly purple with a few white.

WL 214 was favorably reviewed by the National Certified Alfalfa Variety Review Board at its December 1967 meeting and subsequently approved for certification.

About 40 pounds of the original 62 WB seed are held in controlled storage as breeder seed for producing foundation seed. Foundation seed is grown only from breeder seed north of the Idaho-Nevada line in the Pacific Northwest. Certified seed may be produced only from breeder or foundation seed. No other generation or class of seed is to be produced to assure the consistent performance of WL 214.

1 Registered by the Crop Science Society of America. Received May 13, 1968.
2 Director of Research, Waterman-Loomis Company, Bakersfield, California.

REGISTRATION OF WL 303 ALFALFA1

D. F. Beard2

'WL 303' alfalfa (Medicago sativa L.) was developed by the Waterman-Loomis Company and has been commercially available since 1966. It is an 8-clone synthetic derived from 'Atlantic' (6) and 'Vernal' (2). The clones had been progeny tested and were selected for rapid recovery, high forage yield, and good winter survival in the Central Cornbelt. WL 303 is moderately resistant to bacterial wilt and has persisted significantly better than the wilt susceptible Flemish varieties. It has been equal or superior to the Flemish varieties in forage yield for two years at Las Cruces, New Mexico. Forage yields of Mesilla were 137% higher than Zia in 5 testing years at Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Mesilla has a short but definite dormancy period in fall and spring. This variety maintains a high level of growth through the final cutting in October, then usually becomes dormant. Mesilla usually starts growth later in the spring than Zia but yields more at the first cutting. It has a more uniform purple flower color and vegetative growth than Zia. Mesilla appears to be adapted to all of New Mexico and other areas where Zia performs well.

Seed production of Mesilla shall be on a four generation basis; namely, breeder, foundation, registered and certified. Parent clones will be maintained and breeder seeds will be produced by the New Mexico Agricultural Experiment Station. Breeder seed will consist of equal amounts of polycross seed of the four parental clones produced under isolation.


1 Registered by Crop Science Society of America. Received June 7, 1968.
2 Associate Professor of Agronomy, Department of Agronomy, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, N. M.