

Register of Australian Herbage Plant Cultivars

A. Grasses

9. Forage Sorghum

Sorghum spp. hybrid. (sweet Sudan grass hybrids) cv. Lahoma

Reg. No. A-9c-2

Registered prior to December 1971

Published in the 2nd Edition of Register of Australian Herbage Plant Cultivars 1972

Origin

Originated in a selection made by W.C. Elder at Stillwater, Oklahoma, in 1949 from the progeny of Sudan grass breeding materials obtained from the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (4). These breeding materials were the result of a cross between Sudan grass and sweet sorghum cv. Leoti made at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (4). Cv. Lahoma was released by the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station in 1954 and registered in 1960 (4).

It was introduced by the New South Wales Department of Agriculture from the U.S.D.A. in 1955 and initially sown in rows on the property of Mr. T.C. Woods, Inverell (1). A small quantity of seed was certified in 1964.

Morphological description (1,4)

Uniform in growth habit, sweet and juicy stems, and large wide leaves with distinctive yellow-green colour. Tillers freely. Seed colour ranges from apricot to sienna.

Agronomic characters

Late-maturing and produces high yields of palatable forage over a long period under favourable growing conditions; is relatively drought-tolerant; gives high seed yields (4). It is said to have greater resistance to leaf diseases than other sweet Sudan varieties but is susceptible to leaf blight (3). In Californian tests, forage yields were below those of Sweet Sudan grass (3).

In New South Wales it makes early rapid growth and gives quick recovery after grazing for sustained production during summer (1,2). It is agronomically very similar to SS.6. It has on occasions outyielded SS.6 but generally it is only comparable with or even a little less productive than that cultivar (1). It may remain green a little longer than SS.6 (1).

References

1. Boyle, J.W. (1966). Personal communication. N.S.W. Dep. Agric., Sydney.
2. Boyle, J.W., and Imrie, B.C. (1963). Sorghums for forage and fodder. *Agric. Gaz. N.S.W.* **74**, 623-6.
3. Jones, L.G., et al. (1957). Sudan grass for pasture, hay, seed. Calif. Agric. Exp. Stn Circ. 462.
4. Kramer, N.W. (1960). Registration of Sorghum varieties. IX. Lahoma (Reg. No. 108). *Agron. J.* **52**, 666.