

Register of Australian Herbage Plant Cultivars

A. Grasses

12. Buffel

Cenchrus ciliaris L. (buffel grass) cv. Lawes

Reg. No. A-12a-4

Registered prior to December 1971

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Origin

This variety is derived from a small sample of seed (C.P.I.14365) obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Pretoria, South Africa, in 1951. It was tested in inland southern Queensland by L.A. Edye of the CSIRO Division of Tropical Pastures, and released by the Queensland Pasture Liaison Committee in 1962.

Morphological description (1)

Cv. Lawes is an erect, tall, rhizomatous type, similar to cv. Molopo in most morphological detail. The culms have 12 nodes. The leaf blade at its maximum width is wider than the unrolled leaf sheath at its mid point, whereas in Molopo it is only just as wide. The bristles of the involucre are green in the lower part and those of the lower fascicles strongly flexuose; in these characters it differs from cv. Nunbank.

Agronomic characters (2)

This cultivar is similar in performance to Molopo but it is claimed to have higher seed production.

References

1. Blake, S.T. (1967). Personal communication. Herbarium, Botanic Gdns., Brisbane.
2. Edye, L.A. (1967). Personal communication. CSIRO Pastoral Res. Stn., Townsville.