

Register of Australian Herbage Plant Cultivars

A. Grasses

12. Buffel

Cenchrus ciliaris L. (buffel grass) cv. Nunbank

Reg. No. A-12a-5

Registered prior to December 1971

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

Origin

Derived from a small sample of seed (C.P.I.12778) introduced from the Department of Agriculture, Uganda, in 1949. It was tested at a number of Queensland centres, and performed particularly well on the property of B.C. Clark, "Nunbank", Taroom, in experiments conducted by L.A. Edye of the Division of Tropical Pastures, CSIRO. It was released by the Queensland Pasture Liaison Committee in 1961.

Morphological description (1 et al.)

A tall-growing vigorous, rhizomatous type similar to cv. Biloela in most morphological detail. Like that variety the culms are 7-10 noded. The leaf blade at its maximum width is, however, wider than the unrolled leaf sheath, whereas in Biloela it is just about as wide. The ligules are longer, being 1.5-2.0 mm. the bristles of the involucre are straw-coloured in the lower part and straight or weakly flexuose; in these characters and in having fewer-noded culms Nunbank differs from cv. Lawes.

Agronomic characters (2,4)

This variety is similar in performance to cv. Biloela but superior early seedling vigour has been claimed, and slightly better yields have been recorded at Landsdown, Qld.

References

1. Blake, S.T. (1967). Personal communication. Herbarium, Botanic Gdns., Brisbane.
2. Edye, L.A. (1966). CSIRO Aust. Div. Trop. Pastures, Ann. Rep. 1965-66, p. 87.
3. Purcell, D.L. (1964). Gidyea to grass in the Central West. *Qd. Agric. J.* **90**, 548-58.
4. Sillar, D.I. (1963). Pastures for cleared brigalow near Mackay. *Qd. Agric. J.* **89**, 321-5.