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U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station

and

Utah State Division of Wildlife Resources

and

U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service

and

University of Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station

and

University of Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station

and

New Mexico State University Agricultural Experiment Station

and

Utah State University Agricultural Experiment Station

NOTICE OF RELEASE OF 'PAIUTE' ORCHARDGRASS

The United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Soil Conservation Service, Utah State Division of Wildlife Resources, and the Agricultural Experiment Stations of the University of Arizona, University of Idaho, New Mexico State University, and Utah State University announce the release and naming of Paiute orchardgrass (Dactylis glomerata L.). Paiute was introduced from Ankara, Turkey in 1934. It was first tested by the Soil Conservation Service in Arizona and New Mexico. Further testing was conducted by the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Universities in Arizona, Utah and Idaho.

Paiute is a persistent bunchgrass adapted to arid rangelands in the Intermountain West. It was selected for its ability to establish and persist in areas down to 11 inches of annual precipitation.

Paiute is a cool-season, shade-tolerant, long-lived bunchgrass that has an abundance of basal leaves and leafy upright stems. Under range conditions, Paiute usually develops distinct clumps and flower culms 15-18 inches tall, with leaves 10-12 inches long.

Paiute was developed as a forage crop for arid rangelands. It has good potential for erosion control, firebreaks, and critical area treatment. Livestock, big game, and rabbits have shown particular preference for Paiute. In comparison with standard crested wheatgrasses, Paiute greens up a week to 10 days earlier in the spring, remains green longer, responds quicker to fall rains, and is the preferred species for livestock and wildlife.

Throughout the Intermountain West, Paiute has done well on well-drained, basic to slightly acidic soils ranging from clay to gravelly loam, shallow to deep soils. Areas of greatest adaptability are the sagebrush-grass and pinyon-juniper communities.

Breeder seed will be maintained by the Aberdeen Plant Materials Center, Aberdeen, Idaho. Recognized classes of seed are breeder, foundation, registered and certified. Foundation seed is being produced by the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station and Utah Division of Wildlife Resources at Snow College, Ephraim, Utah. Supplies are extremely short at present. Registered seed will be available from the Aberdeen Plant Materials Center the spring of 1983 through soil conservation districts and Agricultural Experiment Stations of Arizona, Idaho, New Mexico and Utah. Certified seed should be available in the fall of 1984.

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