

EVALUATION OF BIRDSFOOT TREFOIL (*Lotus corniculatus* L.) VARIETIES  
FOR ADAPTABILITY TO SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA

(A Preliminary Report)

R.W. Taylor and G.A. Meche

Louisiana State University Rice Experiment Station, Crowley,  
Louisiana 70526, U.S.A.

Five varieties of birdsfoot trefoil ('Dawn', 'KO-4', 'Norcem' (MSP-1601), 'Vega II', and 'Viking') were seeded at 20 lb/A with a small plot seeder in 8-inch rows on 28 Oct. 1981. Fertilizer was broadcast and incorporated before planting at the rate of 12-96-96 lb/A (N-P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-K<sub>2</sub>O). All varieties exhibited poor germination and seeding vigor although Vega II as in the previous year produced the earliest growth. Adequate stands were not obtained for any variety. It should be noted that although trefoil plants from the 1980-81 trial flowered and set seed, seed were rapidly degraded in the high humidity environment of southwest Louisiana. Birdsfoot trefoil varieties available at present are not adapted to this area. However, the performance of Vega II indicated that there may be genetic diversity within the species which might be used to extend the southern range of birdsfoot trefoil.

74th Annu. Prog. Rpt. RES. 74: 447, 1982.

---

Continued from

Gordon C. MARTEN, University of Wisconsin, was named principal U.S. organizer of a trilateral U.S.-Australia-New Zealand seminar on "Forage Legumes for Energy-efficient Animal Production." The May 1984 Seminar will be held in Palmerston North, New Zealand.

Jack O. PETERSON, Corvallis Plant Materials Center, U.S.D.A., 3420 NE Granger Ave., Corvallis, Oregon 97330, has informed me that a new report is coming out on the use of Marshfield Big Trefoil, *Lotus uliginosis*, and grass species in the Coast Range on cut over timber lands.