1981 Birdsfoot Trefoil (Lotus corniculatus)Advanced Evaluation Planting*

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A description of this study has previously been presented. See Voulme 14, page 16, 1981 progress report for details.

The cultivars PI-285284, PI-285285 and 'Prizkulskij' had excellent seed germination and emergence whereas 'Empire' and 'Leo' germinated very slowly. Forage yield data was collected in early July, 1982 from 0.0005 acre samples within each plot. Forage yields expressed in English Ton per acre were highest for 'Leo' (2.44) followed by 'Bowman' (2.19), 'Prizkulskij' (2.15), PI-234691 (2.13), PI-285285 (2.11), PI-285284 (2.10), PI-251143 (2.07) and 'Empire' (1.88) for the single 1982 harvest.

No winterkill occurred during the 1982-83 season. Forage yield samples were collected on July 11 and again on September 14, 1983, representing two harvest cuttings. Each sample was collected from 0.0005 acre within each plot. Total forage yields (expressed in English Ton per acre) were: 'Empire' (5.66), 'Bowman' (5.49), 'Leo' (5.47), 'Priszkulskij' (5.38), PI-251143 (4.93), PI-285285 (4.88), PI-234691 (4.82) and PI-285284 (4.44) for the 1983 season.

All cultivars produced much higher forage yields on the first cutting date in 1983 and lower yields on the second cutting date. Approximately 60-70 percent of the total forage yields were produced in the first cutting for most cultivars.

'Bowman', 'Empire', 'Leo', and 'Prizjulskij' were the highest yielding cultivars in the first cutting. However, 'Bowman' made poorer regrowth and ranked seventh in the second cutting forage yields. Regrowth and highest second cutting forage yields were made by 'Leo' followed by 'Prizkulskij, 'Empire', and PI-285285.

Seed yields were also collected in 1983 from each plot. However, this seed yield data is not available at the time of this writing.

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