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PROMISING TREFOIL INTRODUCTIONS OBSERVED AT THE NORTHEAST

REGIONAL PLANT INTRODUCTION STATION DURING 1973 AND 1974 SEASONS

Lotus corniculatus introductions grown during 1974, consisted of 40 planted in 1973 and 32 planted in 1974. Notes taken from June 15 through the month of July indicate that trefoils are more free of disease and insect damage than other forage legume crops. Notes taken during this period on uniformity, habit of growth, plant vigor, plant size, leafiness, earliness of bloom and pod set indicate that the following introductions are acceptable for most agronomic characters and should be further tested for forage yield:- P.I. 380896 Iran, 380897 Iran, 383685 Tur., 383687 Tur., 383689 Tur., 382690 Tur., 226801 Neth., 283625 Czech., 239937 Ger., 235110 Den., and 300014 S. Afr.

Introductions of Lotus pedunculatus similarly rated that should be further evaluated are as follows:- P.I. 234812 Switz., 239938 Fr., 235102 Swe., 235528 Ger., 239939 Eng., and G-3577 USA.

Introductions of Lotus tenuis similarly rated that should be further evaluated are as follows:- P.I. 235112 Den. and 316275 Czech.

Introductions of Lotus corniculatus showing the best fall recovery on October 1, 1974 are the following:- P.I. 235110, 300014, and 380897.

If anyone is interested in the species of Lotus that makes a rapid spreading ground-cover and might be valuable for soil conservation use, I suggest he try P.I. 311427 Lotus affinis var. decumbens. This accession was collected at Jaen, Spain in February 1966. The seeds are unusually large for a Lotus, germinate rapidly and with unusually good vigor. It is already being investigated at the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Boise, Idaho.