

THE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

AND

NORTH DAKOTA
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

AND

SOUTH DAKOTA
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION .

AND

MINNESOTA
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

AND

NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION
OF SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

AND

SOUTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION
OF SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Notice to Nurserymen of the Naming and Release of 'Centennial' cotoneaster.

Centennial cotoneaster, Cotoneaster integerrima Medikus, is a seed propagated cultivar recommended for use in multi-row farmstead and field windbreaks, wildlife habitat, and plantings associated with revegetation of transportation and transmission corridors and recreation development.

Centennial is a large shrub 8-12 feet (240-360 cm) in height with spreading branches. The leaves are alternate, ovate or oval, acute or obtuse, glabrous and dark blue-green above, whitish and greenish tomentose beneath, $3/4$ to 2 inches (19-50mm) long, turning red brown in autumn. Pale pink flowers are produced in May-June and the bright red globular fruit mature in August. The fruit is utilized by many species of wildlife.

Cotoneaster integerrima is native to Europe, western Asia and Siberia. Accession ND-177, 5729T, PI-113095, originated as seed from the USDA, Agricultural Research Service, Experiment Station, Cheyenne, Wyoming, in 1957. It was **received** by the Experiment Station **as plant** introduction A39228 from China.

The USDA Soil Conservation Service has evaluated the adaptation and performance of Centennial cotoneaster at the Plant Materials Center located at Bismarck, North Dakota.

Field evaluation studies were conducted cooperatively with the Soil Conservation Service and South Dakota State University, Central Research Station, Highmore, South Dakota; University of Minnesota, West Central Experiment Station, Morris, Minnesota; USDI, Fish and Wildlife Service, Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge, Lake Andes, South Dakota; North Dakota State Forest Service; and other state and federal agencies, and conservation district cooperators.

Observations at test locations have shown slight damage from the bacterial disease, fireblight Erwinia amylovora which has proven fatal to Cotoneaster acutifolia Lindt and Cotoneaster lucida Schlecht. Slight symptoms of the disease have been noted on Centennial, but not severe enough to weaken the plant. The fruit and seed production (quality and quantity), resistance to fireblight, attractive foliage and fruit, and large size with spreading branches make Centennial cotoneaster a valuable conservation plant equal to, or superior to, other comparable species: Peking cotoneaster Cotoneaster acutifolia; hedge cotoneaster Cotoneaster lucida; red tatarian honeysuckle Lonicera tatarica L; and siberian peashrub Caragana arborescens sibirica Lam.

Centennial has performed well on deep, fine to moderately fine textured well drained soils and climatic conditions typical of the northern Great Plains.

The result of these studies and others in adjacent states indicate that Centennial is primarily adapted to North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota as shown in figure 1.

The USDA, Soil Conservation Service, Plant Materials Center, P. O. Box 1458, Bismarck, North Dakota 58502, will maintain breeders seed and foundation stock of Centennial cotoneaster. Certified seed (source identified and selected class) will be available from growers approved by State Certified Seed Departments. Standards for all classes of seed are published in the North Dakota Tree and Shrub Certification standards, North Dakota State Seed Department, Fargo, North Dakota, 1974.

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