

JUN 15 REC'D

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION, ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

and the

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

and the

TEXAS AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

NOTICE OF RELEASE OF 'VAN HORN' GREEN SPRANGLETOP

The United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service; the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service; and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station announce the naming and release of 'Van Horn' green sprangletop (*Leptochloa dubia*[H.B.K.] Nees.). It was developed by the Soil Conservation Service, USDA, in Texas and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. ('Van Horn' has been assigned the permanent number of PI-441106.)

'Van Horn' green sprangletop was collected from a native stand approximately eight miles NNE of Van Horn, Texas (Culberson County), on the Wildhorse Ranch one-half mile south of Sulphur Draw, in January 1975, by Soil Conservation Service employees, Steve Holtz and Rhett Johnson. Seed from this accession was planted at the James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center, Knox City, Texas in 1977 for initial evaluation. In 1980, it was selected as the superior accession in the assembly and seed increase for field planting was begun.

By 1987, PI-941106 had been seeded on at least 47 field trial planting sites representing 14 different major land resource areas within the state of Texas. It consistently displayed excellent seedling vigor for establishment and produced more forage than the commercial standard, particularly providing higher quality forage during dormancy. Under good grazing management, 'Van Horn' green sprangletop, when seeded as a component of a range mix, provides early forage and ground cover, typically for about two years. Slower-establishing and longer-lived species will then start to dominate the site and the green sprangletop will gradually decline in population.

'Van Horn' is best adapted to well-drained soils--loose rocky slopes and alluvial loams--primarily of the Trans-Pecos, South Plains Country, Edwards Plateau, and Rio Grande Plains.

Notice of Release of 'Van Horn' Green Sprangletop (Continued)

Four classes of seed will be recognized: Breeder, Foundation, Registered, and Certified. Breeder seed will be maintained by the Soil Conservation Service, James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center, Knox City, Texas. Foundation seed will be produced at this location under the supervision of the Texas Department of Agriculture.

  
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Director  
Texas Agricultural Experiment Station  
College Station, Texas

JUN 5 1989  
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Date

  
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State Conservationist  
Soil Conservation Service, Texas

JUN 9 1989  
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Date

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Director  
Agricultural Research Service  
Washington, D. C.

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Date

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Director  
Ecological Sciences Division  
Soil Conservation Service,  
Washington, D. C.

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Date