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

and

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

and

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SCIENCE AND EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
WASHINGTON, D.C.

NOTICE OF RELEASE OF VERDE KLEINGRASS

The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station; Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Agricultural Research, Science and Education Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture; announce the release and naming of Verde kleingrass. It was developed by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, College Station, Texas in cooperation with Soil Conservation Service, and Agricultural Research, USDA.

Verde kleingrass (Panicum coloratum L.) is a synthetic variety developed through two cycles of maternal line selection. The first cycle was based on open-pollinated progeny performance and the second cycle on performance of progeny resulting from restricted interpollination of superior plants selected in the first cycle. Two polycrosses were involved in the second cycle and they were combined to produce Verde.

Verde has been evaluated for seed size and seedling vigor in the laboratory, controlled environment facilities and greenhouse. Seedling vigor, forage production, forage quality and seed production have been evaluated in replicated field trials. The advantages over the presently

available cultivar (Kleingrass 75) are (1) larger seed and (2) improved seedling vigor. Verde is equal or superior to Kleingrass 75 in forage quality and seed production, and equal to or slightly lower than kleingrass in forage production. While Kleingrass 75 is readily used by game birds, larger seed will enhance its value as a gamebird food source. The larger seed also impart increased seedling vigor which is important in establishment and early production. The primary use is expected to be in conjunction with game bird interests in South and Central Texas.

The new cultivor gets its name from its green color contrasted to the bluish types found in the same species. The green types also generally have smaller stems and leaves than the blue types.

Three classes of seed (Breeders, Foundation, Certified) of Verde kleingrass are recognized. Breeder seed will be maintained by the Soil and Crop Sciences Department, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Foundation seed will be maintained and distributed by the Foundation Seed Service, Texas Agricultural Station.

Suggested release date for Verde kleingrass, April 1, 1981.

Director
Texas Agricultural Experiment Station

APR 6 1981
Date

Director of Ecological Sciences
Soil Conservation Service
US Department of Agriculture

Apr 15, 1981
Date

for T. B. Kinney, Jr.
Administrator
Agricultural Research Science and Education Administration
US Department of Agriculture

May 5, 1981
Date