

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT TO RELEASE NOTICE

OF

'VOLGA' GIANT WILDRYE GRASS,

ELYMUS GIGANTEUS VAHL.

AUTHORIZING

SEED PROPAGATION

Introduction

'Volga' giant or mammoth wildrye was originally developed for control of inland sand dunes in the Pacific Northwest by vegetative propagation. Vegetative material was released by the SCS Pullman Plant Material Center (PMC) in 1949. "Seed not released." However, it was acknowledged by the originators at the time of the release that Volga produced seed and could be propagated by seed.

The origin, description, uses and additional information on Area of Adaptation are given in the Registration notice (Reg. No. 9) 1964.

Establishment from seed

Testing in recent years has shown benefit and utility of direct seeding 'Volga' mammoth wildrye for mine reclamation and limited rangeland and wildlife uses as well as conventional sand dunes stabilization. It has been tested with good performance on sandy hardrock mine tailing above 9,000 elevation near Silverton, Colorado. Volga also performed well from direct seeding on sandy soils; west of Craig, Colorado at 6,300 feet elevation. A stand was established by direct seeding on sandy soils in eastern Colorado near Flaglar. Stands have been established on Uranium tailings in West Central (Grants) New Mexico at 6,675 feet elevation with average annual precipitation of 9 inches. Volga has shown a wide area of adaptation but more important, the ability to establish stands from seed.

'Volga' mammoth wildrye appears to have a wide area of adaptation from sea level in the North West to higher elevation through the Rocky Mountain Region. However, it has not been extremely vigorous on the eastern plains of Colorado.

Seed Production

Seed production has been evaluated at Pullman Washington and Meeker, Colorado: Seed yields at the Pullman PMC were reported at 300 lbs/acre. Average seed yields at the Meeker Environmental Plant Center (EPC) from 1982-1985 have been 361 PLS lbs. Average purity and germination was 98.97 and 64.67 percent respectively.

Amendment - Authorizina Seed Propagation

Therefore, the originating agencies of the release of the cultivar 'Volga' do authorize reproduciton of this cultivar by seed: And, establish Breeders, Foundation and Cetified as official recognized classes of seed certification.

Seed Increase and Distribution

Pullman PMC has maintained and would continue to maintain Breeders seed. Meeker Environmental Plant Center would maintain Foundation seed. Limited Foundation seed is available through the Soil Conservation Service or State Crop Improvement Association.

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Department of Agronomy  
Washington Agriculture Experiment  
Station Pullman Washington

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USDA - SCS  
Plant Materials  
Specialist WNTC

1/ **1972** "Grass Varieties in the United States" Agriculture Handbook  
No. **170** ARS USDA

2/  
**1964** Registration of Varieties of Other Grasses Volga Giant  
Wildrye (Reg. No. 9) A. L. Haternrichter and J. L. Schwendiman and A.  
G. Law