

1997 Progress Report  
 1996 Native Bluegrass Evaluation Planting  
 Field 14, Aberdeen PMC Home Farm  
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Native bluegrasses which include species from the *Poa secunda* complex, are high producing, understory, cool season bunchgrasses found in areas receiving as little as six inches of annual precipitation. These grasses could be used as a component of a seed mixture for range seedings, greenstrips and land retirement.

An evaluation planting of accessions from Caliente, Nevada was seeded in May, 1996. For a detailed description of the methods and materials used, see the 1996 Progress Report. Plots were not irrigated during 1997 and on September 9, they were mowed to reduce weed growth.

On May 6, 1997, the planting was evaluated for percent stand, vigor, and plant height. Percent stand ranged from 14.00 for 9067404 to 59.50 for 9067407. Percent stand data was statistically analyzed for one-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and the Least Significant Difference Test was completed to show means separation and is shown on the accompanying table:

<u>Accession</u>	1997 Results			
	1/ Percent Stand 5/6/97	2/ Vigor 5/6/97	Plant Height (cm) 5/6/97	Clean Seed (grams)
9067407	59.50a	4.0	4.5	50.4
9067408	57.75ab	3.3	4.8	30.9
Sherman	49.00abc	3.5	14.8	93.9
Canbar	44.75abcd	3.0	5.3	5.2
9067402	31.00bcde	4.8	2.8	
9067403	22.75cde	6.5	2.0	
9067405	18.25de	6.0	2.3	
9067406	15.75e	6.3	3.5	
9067404	14.00e	7.3	1.8	

1/ Percent Stand data was analyzed utilizing Least Significant Difference Test. P=0.05, LSD=28.34, CV=56.22%, means followed by the same letter are not significantly different.

2/ Vigor is a subjective rating based upon plant health and growth; 1=Best, 9=Worst.

Vigor ranged from 7.3 (worst) for 9067404 to 3.0 for 'Canbar'. Plant height ranged from 1.8 cm for 9067404 to 14.8 cm for 'Sherman'.

On June 28, plots of Sherman, Canbar, 9067404 and 9067408 were harvested to evaluate seed production which is also shown on the accompanying table. The two middle rows of each plot were harvested and cleaned to determine weights. Sherman produced the most seed followed by 9067407, 9067408, and Canbar. The outer two rows of each plot of 9067407 and 9067408 were also harvested for seed increase. The Planting will continue to be evaluated next year. It is also planned to install a dormant seeding of these accessions in late 1997 to evaluate performance as compared to the spring seeding made in 1996.