

**University of Minnesota**  
**Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics**  
**College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences**  
**Forage Project**  
411 Borlaug Hall  
1991 Upper Buford Circle  
Saint Paul, MN  
Office: 612-625-7773  
Fax: 612-625-1268  
[www.extension.umn.edu/forages/](http://www.extension.umn.edu/forages/)

31 January 2011

## Minnesota evaluation of alfalfa varieties and germplasms ...2011 seedings

The Alfalfa Variety Testing Program at the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES) provides a high quality service to both forage producers and sellers of alfalfa varieties by helping to describe performance of alfalfa varieties marketed in Minnesota and surrounding states. The Alfalfa Variety Testing Program provides fee tests that evaluate alfalfa for forage yield. Results from yield trials will be available on the web at [www.maes.umn.edu](http://www.maes.umn.edu) and [www.extension.umn.edu/forages](http://www.extension.umn.edu/forages).

We are recommending to Minnesota farmers that when selecting varieties, they give first priority to varieties that have had yield performance from at least 3 locations. The current "Minnesota Varietal Trials Results" highlights varieties with yield data for at least 6 site-years. Having at least 3 locations for yield ensures a more complete description of an alfalfa variety's genetic potential.

New yield tests in 2011 will be established at Rosemount, Stearns County, and Lamberton. Data will be reported from current trials only.

## MINNESOTA ALFALFA PERFORMANCE TRIALS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

### **Description of Tests**

Forage Yield – Trials will be conducted according to protocol established by the North American Alfalfa Improvement Conference. Forage yields will be determined at least twice in the seeding year and on a 3- or 4-cut per year schedule in subsequent years. All stands will be harvested for at least 3 years after the year of seeding, unless the stands are depleted sooner. Stand persistence will be evaluated every spring.

### **Entry Fee**

The schedule of entry fees follows. Entry fees must accompany the application for testing.

1. Forage Yield Varieties– \$550.00 per entry.
2. Forage Yield Experimentals – \$425.00 per entry.

### **Eligibility of Entries**

Experimental entries – Entries should be identified using the company designation (name or number). *The entrant is obligated to notify the testing station (contact Joshua Larson) if the experimental designation is changed or a variety name assigned.*

Released (Commercial) Varieties – Entries should be identified using the variety name or number. The company requesting a test will submit the information required in the enclosed "Application for Entry". Released Varieties" herein refers to varieties which have received favorable action by the National Alfalfa Variety Review Board, or which have been recognized as eligible to be certified by AOSCA, or that have been approved for Plant Variety Protection.

### **Right to Reject**

We reserve the right to reject an application when:

1. The seed arrives late.

2. Sufficient seed is not available.
3. It is known that the seed is misrepresented.
4. Facilities are not available.

### **Seed Requirements for Testing**

Experimental entries – Provide the following quantities of seed for testing the forage yield, 125 grams. Send all seed for all tests of a given entry packaged as one sample.

Released Varieties in market channels (those receiving favorable action by the National Alfalfa Variety Review Board or PVP) - The entrant will ensure that commercial seed is available for testing from the University of Wisconsin central seed source. When an application for entry into the performance trials is submitted to the University of Minnesota, applicants should also notify Wisconsin's *Kevin Silveira* (608-262-6203, email: [kgsilvei@facstaff.wis](mailto:kgsilvei@facstaff.wis)) that seed of that variety will need to be available. If you are entering only the Minnesota trials, commercial seed and seed tag information can be sent directly to us (contact Joshua Larson 612-625-8189 or [larso276@umn.edu](mailto:larso276@umn.edu)).

### **Use of Seed**

Seed received for testing experimental entries and varieties will not be used for increase, selection or distribution by the University of Minnesota

### **Publication of Results**

Data for growing season yield and spring stand persistence will be summarized and appropriate statistical analyses conducted. It then will be posted on [www.extension.umn.edu/forages](http://www.extension.umn.edu/forages) in a timely fashion.

Experimental entries - Each entrant will be provided with a summary of data for entries and check varieties. The data will be presented by company experimental designation until the entry either receives favorable action by the National Alfalfa Variety Review Board or is recognized as eligible to be certified by AOSCA or is approved for Plant Variety Protection. At that time, the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station is free to use the data from experimental entries to describe the variety (see next section).

Data collected on Syn2 or later generation experimental populations that are later released to farmers as varieties will be published, but only if the newly named variety is immediately entered again into trials using seed available through commercial channels. Data collected from experimental seed will no longer be included in the published data once two full production years of data are collected from commercial seed with a number of tests sufficient to replace the data from the experimental entries.

If data are derived from experimental seed (Syn2 or later) testing, the data will be identified as such with a footnote similar to the following: "Variety was tested using experimental seed that may not give performance identical to commercially available seed". Data collected from alfalfa populations entered as experimentals in University trials that are not released as named varieties will be distributed via email and website [www.extension.umn.edu/forages](http://www.extension.umn.edu/forages).

Released Varieties - In 2011 (4th quarter), released variety data will be published on our website [www.extension.umn.edu/forages/](http://www.extension.umn.edu/forages/), in *Agri-News* magazine, by the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station in the bulletin "Minnesota Varietal Trials Results" and on the MAES website <http://www.maes.umn.edu> and also included in SELECT software.

University of Minnesota, Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics  
 128 Crop Research 1902 Dudley Ave, St. Paul MN 55108  
 Attn: Joshua Larson: 612-625-8189, FAX 625-8189  
 Email: larso276@umn.edu  
 www.extension.umn.edu/forages

\*\*\* Use ONE application form for each Entry

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Application for Entry

\*\*\* 2011 MINNESOTA ALFALFA PERFORMANCE TRIALS \*\*\*

\*\* Minnesota Alfalfa Forage Quality \*\*

Due: March 1, 2011

Variety Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Experimental designation \_\_\_\_\_  
 MN seedlot # (MN office use only) \_\_\_\_\_

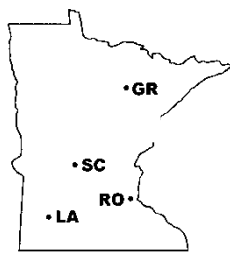
**Forage Yield Trials**

Varieties \$ 550  
 Experimentals \$ 425

RO: Rosemount

SC: Stearns County

LA: Lamberton



**SEED Germination tests**

Total % Germination \_\_\_\_\_  
 % Germination \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hard Seed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Scarified Yes  No   
 Test Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Seed Lot Instructions:**

**Experimental entries:** submit 125 g of seed for each field trial.

Make check payable to: University of Minnesota, Agronomy Dept. (note: Alfalfa Fee Test). Send this application and fees to Minnesota address above.

**Commercial Variety Entries:**

If you are entering only the Minnesota trials 125 g commercial seed can be sent directly to us.

**Affidavit:** I certify that the submitted seed is a true sample of the designated entry. I will not hold the University or its staff responsible for failure to obtain stand or yield data due to unfavorable climatic conditions.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

If using WI-centralized distribution, contact Kevin Silveira (Univ. Wisconsin, Dept. of Agronomy, 1575 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706, Phone: 608-262-6203 Fax 265-3747) by Feb. 15. See: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/forage/news/distribution.htm>

**APPLICANT Information**

**Distributor/Marketer**

Company \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact/Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, ST, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone / \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Breeder/Developer:**

Company \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact/Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, ST, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

University of Minnesota, Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics  
128 Crop Research 1902 Dudley Ave, St. Paul MN 55108  
Attn: Joshua Larson: 612-625-8189, FAX 625-8189  
Email: larso276@umn.edu  
www.extension.umn.edu/forages

\*\*\* Use ONE application form for each Entry

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* 2011 MINNESOTA ROUNDUP READY TRIALS \*\*\*

Application Due: March 1, 2011

Variety Name \_\_\_\_\_

Experimental designation \_\_\_\_\_

MN seedlot # (MN office use only) \_\_\_\_\_

**SEED Germination tests**

Total % Germination \_\_\_\_\_

% Germination \_\_\_\_\_

Hard Seed \_\_\_\_\_

Scarified Yes  No

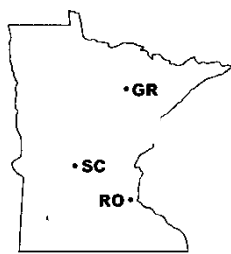
Test Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Roundup Ready Alfalfa Trials**

Varieties \$ 550  
Experimentals \$ 425

RO: Rosemount

SC: Stearns County



**Seed Lot Instructions:**

**Experimental entries:** submit 125 g of seed for each yield trial.

**Commercial Variety Entries:**

If you are entering only the Minnesota trials 125 g commercial seed can be sent directly to us.

If using WI-centralized distribution, contact Kevin Silveira (Univ. Wisconsin, Dept. Agronomy, 1575 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706, Phone: 608-262-6203 Fax 265-3747). See: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/forage/news/distribution.htm>

Make check payable to: University of Minnesota, Agronomy Dept. (note: Alfalfa Fee Test). Send this application and fees to Minnesota address above.

**Affidavit:** I certify that the submitted seed is a true sample of the designated entry. I will not hold the University or its staff responsible for failure to obtain stand or yield data due to unfavorable weather conditions.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Distributor/Marketer**

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Contact/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, ST, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone / \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Breeder/Developer:**

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Contact/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, ST, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_