

Forage Cultivar Trials

Northern Research Group  
Canada Agriculture Research Branch  
Research Station, Beaverlodge, AB

1986 Bulletin  
In cooperation with



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## FORAGE CULTIVAR TRIALS

H.G. Najda

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### FOREWORD

This report is the ninth for a special series of field trials conducted by the Agriculture Canada Research Station at Beaverlodge in cooperation with Alberta Agriculture.

The objective of this program is to provide relative information on seed production capability and general adaptability of named foreign cultivars of perennial grasses and legumes in northern Alberta. The information assists the Canadian forage seed industry in the development of production contracts and seed export markets. Emphasis is on crops economically suitable for the region and which currently form part of Canada's forage seed export industry.

The following test sites were selected to represent the major agronomic soils of the region.

1. Beaverlodge A. Research Station (SE-1-72-10-W6th)

Dark Gray Solod (Esher clay) to Dark Gray Luvisol (Hythe fine loam).

2. Beaverlodge B. Foster Farm (SE-25-71-10-W6th)

Near Beaverlodge, Alberta. Orthic Humic Gleysol (Goose fine loam to Codner clay).

3. Falher. Beaupre Farm (NW-1-78-21-W5th)

Near Falher, Alberta. Dark Gray Solod (Falher clay) to Solonetzic Gray Luvisol (Nampa clay).

4. Fort Vermilion, Experimental Farm (NW-13-108-13-W5th)  
Dark Gray Luvisol (Leith coarse loam) to Orthic Gray Luvisol (Culp coarse loam).

5. Gimli. Driedger Farm (SW-30-72-10-W6th)

Near Beaverlodge, Alberta. Solonetzic Dark Gray Chernozemic (Albright clay) to Solonetzic Gray Luvisol (Hazelmere clay).

6. High Level. Fedeyko Farm (NW-35-109-17-W5th)

Near High Level, Alberta. Orthic Gray Luvisol (Davis fine loam) to Dark Gray Luvisol (Tangent fine loam).

### Section A

Data presented in this section has been collected from stands established at the various test sites described above.

Plots comprise of four rows, 30.5 cm (1 foot) apart, 6.1 metres (20 feet) long, and are replicated 4 times. Weeds are controlled by mechanical and chemical means. Plots are fertilized annually in the autumn.

Seed and herbage (dry matter) yields are expressed as actual production per hectare and as a percent of a designated (\*) standard. The Least Significant Difference at the 5% level is also presented for each test. Winter

survival is shown by a hardiness scale of 0 to 9, with 9 being the best.

#### Section B

Data presented in this section has been collected from screening trials established at the Beaverlodge Research Station. The purpose of these trials is to determine which cultivars should be tested at the various test sites of Part A.

Plots comprise of two rows, 30.5 cm (1 foot) apart, 6.1 metres (20 feet) long, and are replicated 3 times. Plot maintenance is the same as for Part A.

Seed and herbage yields are expressed by a 0 to 5 performance scale, with 5 being best. Winter hardiness is shown by a hardiness scale of 0 to 5, with 5 being best. Cultivars rated above 3 in the above three categories will be considered for further testing in Part A.

#### Section C

Data presented in this section contains a summary of forage seed yields collected from the various test sites established in northern Alberta. Only those cultivars licensed in Canada and cultivars eligible for certification under the OECD scheme are listed.

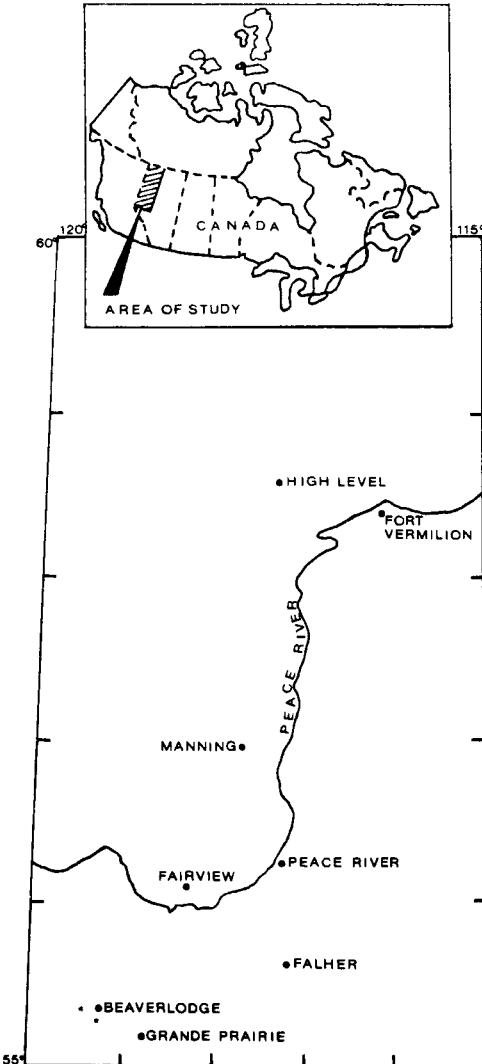
Environmental data prepared by Mr. Peter Mills,  
Beaverlodge Research Station.

The author acknowledges the contributions of the following people to the program: J. Bonnett, L. Burgess, T. Cramer, R. Martin, F. Swanson and D. Wieliczko-Wester.

Evaluation of this publication and suggestions for improvements will be greatly appreciated and should be directed to:

H. Najda  
Forage Agronomist  
Agriculture Canada, Research Station  
Box 29  
Beaverlodge, AB  
Canada T0H 0C0  
Telephone (403) 354-2212

Cover Photo: Farm scene courtesy of the Alberta  
Photograph Library



ENVIRONMENTAL DATA FOR SELECTED SITES IN THE STUDY AREA

	Beaverlodge		Fairview		Fort Vermilion	
	1951-80	1986	1951-80	1986	1951-80	1986
<b>Growing Degree Days</b>						
Above 5°C - May - Aug	988.8	1048.3	1078.0	1106.7	1110.3	1133.8
Total Hours Bright Sun - Annual	2125.5		2059.9		2106.9	
Bright Sun - May - Aug	1111.8	1115.1	1060.3	N/A	1134.9	1006.2
<b>Total Precip. (mm)</b>						
Annual	467.0		446.6		382.5	
May - Aug	235.2	159.5	236.8	172.9	201.7	295.9
<b>Temperature (°C)</b>						
Mean - Annual	1.6		1.3		-1.2	
May - Aug	13.0	13.4	13.7	15.6	13.9	14.2
Mean Maximum - Annual	7.0		6.3		4.5	
May - Aug	19.2	20.1	19.6	20.9	20.5	20.3
Mean Minimum - Annual	-3.7		-3.6		-6.9	
May - Aug	6.7	6.7	7.8	10.2	7.4	8.1
Photoperiod - June 22	17:25		17:38		18:18	
Last Spring Frost (0°C)	May 24	May 23	May 19	May 15	May 28	Jun 13
First Fall Frost (0°C)	Sep 7	Sep 5	Sep 16	N/A	Sep 3	Aug 25
Frost Free Period (days)	105	104	119	N/A	97	73

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Section A - Replicated Trials</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Page</u>	
<b>Red Fescue (<i>Festuca rubra</i> L.)</b>			
Beaverlodge A 1984 - seed	1	Beaverlodge A 1984 - herbage	15
Beaverlodge B 1984 - seed	2	Beaverlodge B 1984 - herbage	15
Fort Vermilion 1984 - seed	3	Fort Vermilion 1984 - herbage	16
Gimle 1984 - seed	4	Gimle 1984 - herbage	16
Seed Yield Summary - 1985-86	5	Herbage Yield Summary - 1985	17
		Herbage Yield Summary - 1986	18
Beaverlodge A 1984 - herbage	6	<b>Red Clover (<i>Trifolium pratense</i> L.)</b>	
Beaverlodge B 1984 - herbage	7	Beaverlodge A 1984 - seed	19
Fort Vermilion 1984 - herbage	8	Beaverlodge B 1984 - seed	19
Gimle 1984 - herbage	9	Fort Vermilion 1984 - seed	20
Herbage Yield Summary - 1985	10	Seed Yield Summary - 1985-86	21
Herbage Yield Summary - 1986	11		
<b>Timothy - Hay (<i>Phleum pratense</i> L.)</b>			
Beaverlodge A 1984 - seed	12	Beaverlodge A 1984 - herbage	22
Beaverlodge B 1984 - seed	12	Beaverlodge B 1984 - herbage	22
Fort Vermilion 1984 - seed	13	Fort Vermilion 1984 - herbage	23
Gimle 1984 - seed	13	Herbage Yield Summary - 1985	24
Seed Yield Summary - 1985-86	14	Herbage Yield Summary - 1986	25

<u>Section B - Screening Trials 1984-1985</u>	<u>Page</u>
Alfalfa ( <u>Medicago sativa</u> L.)	27,34
Birdsfoot Trefoil ( <u>Lotus corniculatus</u> L.)	29,35
Alsike Clover ( <u>Trifolium incarnatum</u> L.)	35
Red Clover ( <u>Trifolium pratense</u> L.)	35
White Clover ( <u>Trifolium repens</u> L.)	35
Bromegrass ( <u>Bromus inermis</u> Leyss.)	36
Meadow Fescue ( <u>Festuca pratensis</u> Huds.; <u>F. elatior</u> auct.)	29,36
Red Fescue ( <u>Festuca rubra</u> L.)	29,36
Tall Fescue ( <u>Festuca arundinacea</u> Schreb.)	30,37
Fescue x Ryegrass Hybrid ( <u>Festuca pratensis</u> L. x <u>Lolium perenne</u> L.)	30
Orchard Grass ( <u>Dactylis glomerata</u> L.)	31,37
Perennial Ryegrass ( <u>Lolium perenne</u> L.)	31
Reed Canarygrass ( <u>Phalaris arundinacea</u> L.)	38
Timothy ( <u>Phleum pratense</u> L.)	33,38

Section C - Forage Seed Yield Summaries

Bromegrass ( <u>Bromus inermis</u> Leyss.)	40
Red Fescue ( <u>Festuca rubra</u> L.)	40
Timothy ( <u>Phleum pratense</u> L.)	42
Red Clover ( <u>Trifolium pratense</u> L.)	44

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A

## Red Fescue

Test Site: Beaverlodge Research Station  
Seeding Year: 1984

Cultivar	Origin	Hardiness	Height (cm)	Date Ripe		Seed Yield			
				1985	1986	1985	1986	% of Boreal 1985	% of Boreal 1986
Beauty	(1) Netherlands	9.0	32	Jul 19	Jul 21	87	210	31	26
Boreal*	(3) Canada	9.0	50	Jul 19	Jul 25	278	812	100	100
B 7733	(3) Canada	9.0	54	Jul 19	Jul 25	482	1106	173	136
Carlawn	(3) Canada	9.0	50	Jul 19	Jul 25	421	801	151	99
Commodore	(3) Netherlands	9.0	50	Jul 19	Jul 25	162	515	58	63
G	(2) Hungary	9.0	53	Jul 19	Jul 25	160	826	58	102
Islandic	(3) Netherlands	9.0	50	Jul 19	Jul 25	116	789	42	97
Leik	(3) Norway	9.0	61	Jul 19	Jul 25	325	901	117	111
Perelle	(2) France	7.8	35	Jul 19	Jul 25	6	201	2	25
Robot	(3) United Kingdom	9.0	55	Jul 19	Jul 25	328	695	118	86
Satin	(2) Sweden	9.0	48	Jul 19	Jul 21	40	235	14	29
Zernickower	(3) East Germany	9.0	56	Jul 19	Jul 25	352	832	127	102
Mean						230	660		
L.S.D. (P = .05)						129	89		

- (1) Rhizomes absent or rudimentary  
 (2) Slender rhizomes  
 (3) Strong rhizomes  
 (4) Unclassified

Red Fescue		Test Site: Beaverlodge B (Foster Farm)		Seeding Year: 1984		Seed Yield			
Cultivar	Origin	Hardiness	Height (cm)	Date 1985	Ripe 1986	kg/ha 1985	kg/ha 1986	% of 1985	Boreal 1986
Beauty	(1) Netherlands	9.0	40	Jul 19	Jul 24	193	502	40	44
Boreal*	(3) Canada	9.0	50	Jul 19	Jul 24	477	1142	100	100
B 7733	(3) Canada	9.0	49	Jul 19	Jul 24	588	1287	123	113
Carlawn	(3) Canada	9.0	54	Jul 19	Jul 24	724	1151	152	101
Commodore	(3) Netherlands	9.0	53	Jul 19	Jul 24	406	886	85	78
G	(2) Hungary	9.0	55	Jul 19	Jul 24	328	1099	69	96
Islandic	(3) Netherlands	9.0	54	Jul 19	Jul 24	281	990	59	87
Leik	(3) Norway	9.0	59	Jul 19	Jul 24	453	1077	95	94
Pereille	(2) France	7.3	39	Jul 19	Jul 21	15	291	3	25
Robot	(3) United Kingdom	9.0	54	Jul 19	Jul 24	408	978	86	86
Satin	(2) Sweden	9.0	51	Jul 19	Jul 21	100	346	21	30
Zernickower	(3) East Germany	9.0	57	Jul 19	Jul 24	523	1198	110	105
Mean						375	912		
L.S.D. (P = .05)						160	123		

- (1) Rhizomes absent or rudimentary
- (2) Slender rhizomes
- (3) Strong rhizomes
- (4) Unclassified

Test Site: Fort Vermilion Experimental Farm  
Seeding Year: 1984

Cultivar	Origin	Hardiness	Height (cm)	Date Ripe		Seed Yield			
				1985	1986	kg/ha	% of Boreal	1985	1986
Beauty	(1) Netherlands	8.4	48	Jul 16	Jul 21	629	103	44	39
Boreal*	(3) Canada	9.0	63	Jul 16	Jul 21	1436	264	100	100
B 7733	(3) Canada	9.0	66	Jul 16	Jul 21	1213	266	84	101
Carlawn	(3) Canada	9.0	65	Jul 16	Jul 21	1178	196	82	74
Commodore	(3) Netherlands	9.0	65	Jul 16	Jul 21	806	114	56	43
G	(2) Hungary	9.0	72	Jul 16	Jul 21	1069	217	74	82
Islandic	(3) Netherlands	9.0	66	Jul 16	Jul 21	731	83	51	31
Leik	(3) Norway	9.0	72	Jul 16	Jul 21	1023	219	71	83
Perelle	(2) France	9.0	45	Jul 16	Jul 21	165	21	11	8
Robot	(3) United Kingdom	9.0	62	Jul 16	Jul 21	760	145	53	55
Satin	(2) Sweden	9.0	61	Jul 16	Jul 21	351	40	24	15
Zernickower	(3) East Germany	9.0	67	Jul 16	Jul 21	1014	174	71	66
Mean						865	153		
L.S.D. (P = .05)						243	57		

- (1) Rhizomes absent or rudimentary
- (2) Slender rhizomes
- (3) Strong rhizomes
- (4) Unclassified

## Red Fescue

Test Site: Gimle (Driedger Farm)  
Seeding Year: 1984

Cultivar	Origin	Hardiness	Height (cm)	Date Ripe 1986	Seed Yield	
					kg/ha 1986	% of Boreal 1986
<b>Beauty</b>	(1) Netherlands	9.0	53	Jul 24	922	61
Boreal*	(3) Canada	9.0	68	Jul 21	1506	100
B 7733	(3) Canada	9.0	65	Jul 24	1371	91
Carlawn	(3) Canada	9.0	66	Jul 24	1383	92
Commodore	(3) Netherlands	9.0	65	Jul 24	1101	73
G	(2) Hungary	9.0	73	Jul 24	1209	80
Islandic	(3) Netherlands	9.0	66	Jul 24	1045	69
Leik	(3) Norway	9.0	66	Jul 24	931	62
Robot	(3) United Kingdom	9.0	60	Jul 24	1236	82
Satin	(2) Sweden	9.0	55	Jul 21	396	26
Zernickower	(3) East Germany	9.0	63	Jul 24	1303	87
Mean					1128	
L.S.D. (P = .05)					289	

(1) Rhizomes absent or rudimentary

(2) Slender rhizomes

(3) Strong rhizomes

(4) Unclassified

Summary of Red Fescue Seed Yields  
1984 Seeding Year  
(Yields are shown as % of Boreal)

Cultivar	Origin	B'lodge A		B'lodge B		Falher	Fort Vermilion		Gimle		High Level	All Locations (Average)	
		1985	1986	1985	1986		1985	1986	1985	1986		1985	1986
Beauty	(1) Netherlands	31	26	40	44	(a)	44	39	(b)	61	(a)	38	43
Boreal*	(3) Canada	100	100	100	100		100	100		100		100	100
B 7733	(3) Canada	173	136	123	113		84	101		91		127	110
Carlawn	(3) Canada	151	99	152	101		82	74		92		128	92
Commodore	(3) Netherlands	58	63	85	78		56	43		73		66	64
G	(2) Hungary	58	102	69	96		74	82		80		67	90
Islandic	(3) Netherlands	42	97	59	87		51	31		69		51	71
Leik	(3) Norway	117	111	95	94		71	83		62		94	88
Perelle	(2) France	2	25	3	25		11	8		-		5	19
Robot	(3) United Kingdom	118	86	86	86		53	55		82		86	77
Satin	(2) Sweden	14	29	21	30		24	15		26		20	25
Zernickower	(3) East Germany	127	102	110	105		71	66		87		103	90
Boreal Yield in kg/ha		278	812	477	1142		1436	264		1506		730	931

(1) Rhizomes absent or rudimentary  
 (2) Slender rhizomes  
 (3) Strong rhizomes  
 (4) Unclassified

(a) Not seeded  
 (b) Seed not harvested

## Red Fescue

Test Site: Beaverlodge Research Station  
Seeding Year: 1984

Cultivar	Origin	1st Herbage Yield						2nd Herbage Yield					
		Day 1985	Cut 1986	(DM) 1985	t/ha 1986	% of 1985	Boreal 1986	Day 1985	Cut 1986	(DM) 1985	t/ha 1986	% of 1985	Boreal 1986
Beauty	(1) Netherlands	Jun 18	Jun 17	0.11	1.37	22	46	Aug 21	Aug 21	0.24	0.98	26	84
Boreal*	(3) Canada	Jun 18	Jun 17	0.50	2.97	100	100	Aug 21	Aug 21	0.91	1.17	100	100
B 7733	(3) Canada	Jun 18	Jun 17	0.78	2.95	156	99	Aug 21	Aug 21	1.28	0.78	141	67
Carlawn	(3) Canada	Jun 18	Jun 17	0.80	2.89	160	97	Aug 21	Aug 21	0.81	0.90	89	77
Commodore	(3) Netherlands	Jun 18	Jun 17	0.55	2.73	110	92	Aug 21	Aug 21	0.86	0.97	95	83
G	(2) Hungary	Jun 18	Jun 17	0.40	3.49	80	118	Aug 21	Aug 21	0.90	1.32	99	113
Islandic	(3) Netherlands	Jun 18	Jun 17	0.57	3.37	114	113	Aug 21	Aug 21	1.41	1.37	155	117
Leik	(3) Norway	Jun 18	Jun 17	0.99	3.58	198	121	Aug 21	Aug 21	1.42	0.68	156	58
Perelle	(2) France	Jun 18	Jun 17	0.09	1.89	18	64	Aug 21	Aug 21	0.35	1.06	38	91
Robot	(3) United Kingdom	Jun 18	Jun 17	0.77	2.79	154	94	Aug 21	Aug 21	1.29	0.98	142	84
Satin	(2) Sweden	Jun 18	Jun 17	0.30	2.60	60	88	Aug 21	Aug 21	1.06	1.56	116	133
Zernickower	(3) East Germany	Jun 18	Jun 17	1.06	3.74	212	126	Aug 21	Aug 21	1.43	0.88	157	75
Mean				0.58	2.86					1.00	1.05		
L.S.D. (P = .05)				0.34	0.45					0.35	0.28		

- (1) Rhizomes absent or rudimentary  
 (2) Slender rhizomes  
 (3) Strong rhizomes  
 (4) Unclassified

## Red Fescue

Test Site: Beaverlodge B (Foster Farm)  
Seeding Year: 1984

Cultivar	Origin	1st Herbage Yield						2nd Herbage Yield					
		Day 1985	Cut 1986	(DM) 1985	t/ha 1986	% of 1985	Boreal 1986	Day 1985	Cut 1986	(DM) 1985	t/ha 1986	% of 1985	Boreal 1986
Beauty	(1) Netherlands	Jun 17	Jun 17	0.37	2.60	49	66	Aug 19	Aug 18	0.45	1.59	53	97
Boreal*	(3) Canada	Jun 17	Jun 17	0.75	3.96	100	100	Aug 19	Aug 18	0.85	1.64	100	100
B 7733	(3) Canada	Jun 17	Jun 17	0.87	4.67	116	118	Aug 19	Aug 18	1.02	1.87	120	114
Carlawn	(3) Canada	Jun 17	Jun 17	1.22	4.35	163	110	Aug 19	Aug 18	1.18	2.06	139	126
Commodore	(3) Netherlands	Jun 17	Jun 17	0.74	4.50	99	114	Aug 19	Aug 18	0.92	1.94	108	118
G	(2) Hungary	Jun 17	Jun 17	0.94	5.78	125	146	Aug 19	Aug 18	1.02	2.08	120	127
Islandic	(3) Netherlands	Jun 17	Jun 17	0.97	5.04	129	127	Aug 19	Aug 18	1.40	2.29	165	140
Leik	(3) Norway	Jun 17	Jun 17	1.12	5.32	149	134	Aug 19	Aug 18	1.60	1.53	188	93
Perelle	(2) France	Jun 17	Jun 17	0.13	2.83	17	71	Aug 19	Aug 18	0.42	1.79	49	109
Robot	(3) United Kingdom	Jun 17	Jun 17	1.01	4.74	135	120	Aug 19	Aug 18	1.30	1.89	153	115
Satin	(2) Sweden	Jun 17	Jun 17	0.63	4.36	84	110	Aug 19	Aug 18	1.27	2.41	149	147
Zernickower	(3) East Germany	Jun 17	Jun 17	1.38	5.26	184	133	Aug 19	Aug 18	1.28	2.01	151	123
Mean				0.84	4.45					1.06	1.93		
L.S.D. (P = .05)				0.32	0.70					0.27	0.31		

(1) Rhizomes absent or rudimentary

(2) Slender rhizomes

(3) Strong rhizomes

(4) Unclassified

## Red Fescue

Test Site: Fort Vermilion Experimental Farm  
 Seeding Year: 1984

Cultivar	Origin	1st Herbage Yield						2nd Herbage Yield					
		Day 1985	Cut 1986	(DM) 1985	t/ha 1986	% of 1985	Boreal 1986	Day 1985	Cut 1986	(DM) 1985	t/ha 1986	% of 1985	Boreal 1986
Beauty	(1) Netherlands	Jun 10	Jun 9	1.70	1.02	53	70	Aug 13	Aug 19	1.34	1.24	86	78
Boreal*	(3) Canada	Jun 10	Jun 9	3.21	1.45	100	100	Aug 13	Aug 19	1.56	1.58	100	100
B 7733	(3) Canada	Jun 10	Jun 9	3.07	2.04	96	141	Aug 13	Aug 19	1.59	2.02	102	128
Carlawn	(3) Canada	Jun 10	Jun 9	2.98	1.56	93	108	Aug 13	Aug 19	1.46	1.71	94	108
Commodore	(3) Netherlands	Jun 10	Jun 9	2.37	1.62	74	112	Aug 13	Aug 19	1.44	1.73	92	109
G	(2) Hungary	Jun 10	Jun 9	3.60	1.98	112	137	Aug 13	Aug 19	2.09	2.27	134	144
Islandic	(3) Netherlands	Jun 10	Jun 9	2.65	1.45	83	100	Aug 13	Aug 19	1.99	2.17	128	137
Leik	(3) Norway	Jun 10	Jun 9	3.14	2.59	98	179	Aug 13	Aug 19	1.56	1.22	100	77
Perelle	(2) France	Jun 10	Jun 9	0.93	1.59	29	110	Aug 13	Aug 19	1.46	2.00	94	127
Robot	(3) United Kingdom	Jun 10	Jun 9	2.62	1.75	82	121	Aug 13	Aug 19	1.53	1.97	98	125
Satin	(2) Sweden	Jun 10	Jun 9	2.19	1.69	68	117	Aug 13	Aug 19	2.25	1.99	144	126
Zernickower	(3) East Germany	Jun 10	Jun 9	2.66	2.11	83	146	Aug 13	Aug 19	1.96	2.22	126	141
Mean				2.59	1.74					1.69	1.84		
L.S.D. (P = .05)				0.62	0.45					0.42	0.40		

- (1) Rhizomes absent or rudimentary
- (2) Slender rhizomes
- (3) Strong rhizomes
- (4) Unclassified