BRUCE

Birdsfoot Trefoil

Experimental designation NB 90-109

Birdsfoot Trefoil Cultivar Trials, 2009 Ithaca, Thompkins Co.

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http://plbrgen.cals.cornell.edu/cals/pbg/programs/departmental/forage/foragetest.cfm

T/A = tons per acre dry matter; 5%LSD = to claim statistically significant yield differences between two cultivars, the yield difference must be equal to or greater than the LSD

		2009			2010			2011	
Cultivar	Marketing Co.	26-Aug	% of Norcen	% Stand 9-Nov	Total Season	% of Norcen	Total Season	% of Norcen	% stand 24-Oct
		T/A			T/A		T/A		
BRUCE	Semican	2.70	151	95	4.55	143	4.25	114	48
WITT	Public Check	2.45	137	92	3.91	123	3.84	103	42
PARDEE	Seedway/FGS/Growmark	2.42	135	94	4.55	143	4.37	118	50
AC LANGILE	Public Check	2.23	125	94	3.81	120	4.17	112	38
NORCEN	Public Check	1.79	100	95	3.17	100	3.72	100	40
LSD (0.05)		0.19			0.31		0.19		14

Birdsfoot Trefoil Regional Trial (1997 seedling)

Dry Matter Yield, t/ha, The NBDAFA/SCIA trial was seeded in 1999 – this is the first of DM data from this site.

Cultivar	*Nappan*	*Charlottetown*			*Truro*		*NBAFA*	*Mean*
	1998	1998	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000	
NB90-109 (BRUCE)	8.61	11.18	9.37	7.53	10.6	5.37	8.98	8.80
LEO	8.02	10.96	9.13	7.38	10.05	5.22	7.91	8.38

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This is Ag Canada's newest release of trefoil from Dr. Papadopoulos' world class breeding program. This cultivar has been selected for vigorous seedling growth characteristics and for superior winter hardiness over previous North American cultivars. This has been borne out by Cornell University, New York State trials where BRUCE out yielded the check variety, NORCEN, by 51% (5 % LCD) in 2009 in its seedling year.

The variety did come out on top for winter hardy varieties in 2010 and 2011 out yielding NORCEN by an average of 28% for the two years in this state trial. The variety, PARDEE, out yielded BRUCE by 1% but having grown it and experiencing winterkill on this variety for three years in different fields we know its usage will be limited to more southerly locations. In New Brunswick (NBAFA) trials, BRUCE out yielded LEO by 13.5% and out yielded LEO in Nova Scotia by 5% - more data will be available as this years results come in. Seedling vigour is an extremely valuable trait as we can see climate challenges ahead be it drought, flood, or weed challenges due to farmers not being able to access the field due to wet conditions. With the loss of snow cover in different regions in mid-winter I feel that winter hardiness is another trait that cannot be over looked as we go forward.

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