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OAT VARIETIES FOR SOUTHERN IDAHO

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Idaho's oat acreage has increased in recent years. Production in 1969 was estimated at 5.5 million bushels, a marked increase from the previous year and well above the recent average of less than 5 million bushels.

New varieties have been developed, tested, and released to meet changing conditions of production and marketing. Several varieties are described and compared in this publication. Overland and Park are cited frequently for purposes of comparison because they are more familiar in Idaho than the more recently released varieties.

VARIETIES

Cayuse

Cayuse is a high-yielding, short, stiff-strawed, lodging-resistant variety with tolerance to barley yellow dwarf virus (red leaf). The kernels are pale yellow. Cayuse has consistently outyielded Park in irrigated trials at Aberdeen and Twin Falls and dryland trials at Tetonia. Cayuse averaged 170 bushels per acre in trials at Aberdeen and Twin Falls, compared to 155 bushels per acre for Park. Cayuse outyielded Bingham by an average of 6.6 bushels per acre in trials under irrigation at the same locations. Cayuse is 2 to 5 days earlier in heading and averages 4 to 5 inches shorter than Park.

Cayuse is adapted over a wide area. It had the highest average yield in irrigated trials in six Northwestern States from 1965 to 1969. Cayuse also yields well in dryland trials. It has equaled or exceeded Park, Bingham, and Overland in yield in most dryland comparisons. Cayuse has had the highest average yield in dryland trials in five Northwestern States in several years of testing. Cayuse is a selection from the cross Craig x Alamo made in 1952 by N. F. Jensen of Cornell University. Washington State University and the University of Idaho jointly released Cayuse in 1966.

Park

Park is a high yielding, stiff-strawed variety with plump white kernels. Park averaged 155 bushels per acre in trials under irrigation at Aberdeen and Twin Falls compared to 148 bushels per acre for Overland. It has also outyielded Overland in dryland trials at Tetonia.

Park is later in heading and generally a little taller than Overland, but Park has a better lodging record than Overland. Park was cooperatively developed by the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station and the U. S. Department of Agriculture and released by the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station in 1953. It was released in Idaho in 1958.

Bingham

Bingham is a tall, stiff-strawed, white-kerneled variety with high yield potential. Bingham outyielded Park by an average of 7.3 bushels per acre in trials under irrigation at Aberdeen and Twin Falls. It has a lower test weight than Park and Overland, and averages 2 inches taller than Park and 6 inches taller than Cayuse. Bingham heads approximately 2 days later than Park and 7 days later than Cayuse. Bingham was developed cooperatively by the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station and the U. S. Department of Agriculture and released in 1966.

Overland

Overland is an early maturing, white-kerneled variety. It was formerly very popular in Idaho, but the acreage has declined in recent years with the development of improved varieties. Cayuse has consistently outyielded Overland under irrigation at Aberdeen and Twin Falls. Park averaged 10.7 bushels per acre more than Overland in trials at Aberdeen and 2.4 bushels per acre more at Twin Falls. Cayuse and Park also outyielded Overland in dryland trials at Tetonia. Cayuse is shorter than Overland. Cayuse and Park have better lodging records than Overland. Overland was developed cooperatively by the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station and the U. S. Department of Agriculture and released in 1957.

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Rodney

Rodney has plump white kernels and high test weight. It yielded less than Cayuse in trials conducted at one dryland and two irrigated locations in 1967. Rodney has also yielded less than Park in most irrigated trials at Aberdeen and Twin Falls. It has approximately the same heading date as Park and is taller than Park under irrigation at Aberdeen. Rodney may have advantages in forage yield for oat-hay purposes. Rodney was released in 1953 by the Dominion Laboratory of Cereal Breeding of the Canada Department of Agriculture.

IRRIGATED TRIALS

Variety	Average Yield (bu/A)	Test Weight (lbs/bu)	Lodging (%)	Height (in)	Heading Date (June)
ABERDEEN (1965-69)					
Cayuse	184.2	39.1	1	37	20
Park	170.9	40.1	9	43	25
Overland	160.2	39.4	13	39	22
TWIN FALLS (1965-68)					
Cayuse	152.6	37.8	6	30	
Park	135.2	37.8	6	34	
Overland	132.8	38.5	15	36	

DRYLAND TRIALS

Variety	Average Yield (bu/A)	Test Weight (lbs/bu)	Height (in)	Heading Date (July)
TETONIA (1965-68)				
Cayuse	65.3	35.7	30	27
Park	53.7	35.6	34	29
Overland	48.7	36.1	35	21

The trials reported in this publication were conducted in cooperation with M. J. LeBaron, Twin Falls; B. A. McCallum and H. C. McKay, Tetonia; and E. W. Owens and F. C. Petr, Aberdeen.

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