UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
PLANT SCIENCES DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

and

MONTANA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
BOZEMAN, MONTANA

NOTICE OF RELEASE OF 'ROSANA' WESTERN WHEATGRASS

The Plant Sciences Division, Soil Conservation Service, USDA, and the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station announce the release of Rosana western wheatgrass (*Agropyron smithii* Rydb.). It was developed by J. R. Stroh and A. A. Thornburg, SCS Plant Materials Center, Bridger, Montana, and A. L. Dubbs, Central Montana Research Center, Moccasin, Montana.

Rosana is an open pollinated line (experimental designations P-15582 and M-23) collected from native meadows along Porcupine Creek northwest of Forsyth, Montana, in 1959. The collection was directly increased without selection.

Rosana exhibits excellent seedling vigor and ease of establishment. The seeds have a high percentage of germination. The plants are strongly rhizomatous and produce a tight sod resistant to trampling and vehicular traffic. The plants are blue-green, leafy, moderately fine stemmed, and produce high seed yields. Forage production is equal to other accessions of western wheatgrass. It is adapted to medium- to fine-textured soils, neutral to strongly alkaline; irrigated sites, overflow bottomlands, or dryland with 14 inches or more precipitation; flat to moderately rolling topography in the northern Rocky Mountain region and adjacent Great Plains.

Rosana was developed for irrigated hay or pasture in short water supply areas and overflow sites, or reseeding dryland range sites.

Breeder and foundation seed of Rosana is maintained by the SCS Plant Materials Center, Bridger, Montana, and is increased under the limited generation program recognizing foundation and certified seed classes. Foundation seed is available.

Release date of Rosana western wheatgrass is May 1, 1972.

Director
Plant Sciences Division, SCS, USDA

February 28, 1973
Date

Director
Montana Agricultural Experiment Station

March 12, 1973
Date