

Three New Varieties of Forage Crops Identified For Release [BL-180, JHO 99-1 & RO-19]

In many regions of the country, livestock based farming is a way of life. Any strategy aimed at ensuring the livelihood security of people in such regions has to take into account the importance of livestock. Realizing this, ICAR has identified and released 3 new varieties of forage crops.

BL-180 variety of Berseem has been identified for North Western Plain and North Hill Zone. Developed by Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, this variety is suitable under irrigated condition with an average yield of 625 q/ha of green fodder and 3.4 q/ha of seed yield.

JHO 99-1 (single cut) variety of Oat has been identified for North Hill Zone. Developed by Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI), Jhansi, this variety is suitable for cultivation in temperate and sub temperate areas during Rabi season and matures in 150-155 days.

RO-19 (multi-cut) variety of Oat has been identified for National Level across the Zones because of its high yield potential, quality parameters and resistance to major diseases and pests. The variety has been developed Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri and is suitable for winter season under irrigated condition. The average yield is 495 q/ha for green forage and 94.5 q/ha for dry matter yield.

Source : The Hindu dated 29th September, 2005