## UNITED STATES DEPARIMENT OF AGRICULTURE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE.

and

## IDAHO AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

## NOTICE OF RELEASE OF 'DELAR' SMALL BURNET

The Soil Conservation Service and the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station announce the naming and release of 'Delar' small burnet (Sanguisorba minor Scop.) for use in mixtures designed for range seedings, revegetating minespoils and other disturbed areas, wildlife food and cover, and erosion control in the Intermountain Region. It has been tested as BN-9043 by the Soil Conservation Service Plant Materials Center, Aberdeen, Idaho since 1969. The name Delar denotes pleasing or alluring after the attractive green lush appearance of the plant.

The origin of the parent material is unknown. It has been traced back to a private seed company in Raducah, Kentucky from which a small quantity of seed was purchased by the Soil Conservation Service for testing in 1957. It was first selected as having potential use in the Intermountain Region by C. G. Howard at the Aberdeen PMC. Delar was tested with four other outstanding accessions in replicated projects conducted at Parma (Ft. Boise), irrigated; Aberdeen, irrigated; and Tetonia, dryland. Delar had the highest forage and seed production at all three locations. It was also the most attractive and most cold tolerant.

Small burnet is a perennial evergreen, non-leguminous forb, native of Eurasia, has been widely cultivated in Europe as a salad herb. It is closely related to two species native to the Western United States, Western burnet, Sanguisorba occidentalis Nutt, and Alaskan burnet, Sanguisorba sitchensis, C. A. Meyer. Small burnet has been introduced in North America. It is fairly common in the eastern U.S. and occasionally found in the west. Delar should be well adapted throughout the Intermountain Region. It is non-toxic and readily utilized by deer, elk, and all types of livestock. Birds, both game and non-game, consume the seed. An improved cultivar is desired and needed by land management agencies, both public and private, for use in revegetation seedings. To date, a released cultivar has not been available. Delar will help meet these needs.

Breeders and Foundation seed are being produced at the Aberdeen Plant Materials Center. Foundation seed is currently available from the University of Idaho Research and Extension Center at Aberdeen and through Soil Conservation Districts in Idaho, Nevada, and Utah.

ACKNOWINGMENT: Appreciation to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game for making land and facilities available for testing small burnets at their Ft. Boise Wildlife Management area near Parma in Canyon County, Idaho; and special thanks to James Uranga, Manager of the Ft. Boise WLMA, for his time and assistance during the period 1969–1974 when testing was conducted on that site.

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