RELEASE OF LIGHT RED KIDNEY DRY BEAN ‘BLUSH’

The Washington Agricultural Research Center, the Idaho Experiment Station, and the Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, jointly announce the release of a new light red kidney dry bean ‘Blush’. This cultivar is a large seeded, upright, mid-season maturity, and disease-resistant light red kidney dry bean adapted to the U.S. Pacific Northwest.

Blush is an F₁₀ derived F₁₃ line from the cross 84BR-1122/K-42. Breeding line 84BR-1122 was a root rot [Fusarium solani (Mart.) Sacc. f. sp. phaseoli (Burkholder) W.C. Snyder & H.N. Hans] tolerant bush snap bean developed by USDA-ARS at Prosser, WA. K-42 is a light red kidney breeding line released by Burke et al. K-42 has shown resistance to halo blight [caused by Pseudomonas syringa pv. phaseolicola (Burkholder) Young et al.]. Blush was selected for individual plants possessing desirable disease resistance, seed quality, and architectural traits.

Blush has complete resistance to curly top virus (CTV) and l, bc-1 gene resistance to bean common mosaic virus ( BCMV). Blush also has some root rot tolerance from 84BR-1122. Blush has an upright growth habit (Type I) like 'Kardinal' and is resistant to lodging. Blush was yield tested as USWA-33 in the advanced yield trials in Othello for 3 years since 1995 and yield was comparable to Kardinal. Blush also was yield tested across 44-location years in 1997 and 1998 in the National Cooperative Dry Bean Nurseries (CDBN) where it yielded 9% more than Kardinal, 7% more than California Early Light Red Kidney (CELRK), and 7% more than 'Chinook 2000'. Blush matures in 93 d, which is 3 d later than Kardinal and Chinook 2000, and 7 d later than CELRK. Seed of Blush is larger than Kardinal, 56 vs. 52 g 100¹ seeds. Blush had acceptable canning quality in tests conducted by USDA-ARS and the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, performing better than CELRK for color and shape.

Blush has been released as a non-exclusive public variety without Plant Variety Protection. Breeder and foundation seed will be maintained by the Washington State Crop Improvement Association, Inc. Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, WSU Seedhouse, Pullman, WA 99164-6420.