The Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Agricultural Experiment Stations of Washington State University, University of Idaho, and Oregon State University, jointly announce the naming and release of a new Pinto bean, OTHELLO. This new cultivar has a unique combination of very early maturity and effective field resistance to Fusarium root rot. It is also resistant to curly top and to all strains of the bean common mosaic virus (BCMV) known to occur in the Pacific Northwest. In greenhouse tests it developed mild mosaic when inoculated with the NL-4 (Mexican) strain of BCMV and only local necrotic lesions on leaves inoculated with the more recently reported exotic strains of the virus (NL-5 and TN-1). OTHELLO plants are vigorous, short, fairly upright (CIAT Type IIIA) vines, which produce a heavy yield of midset pods, few of which touch the ground. Its rate of maturity (70-92 days) is equal to that of the earliest cultivars we have tested over the years. It has also been equal in maturity to the earliest maturing cultivar in most of the inter-regional dry bean nursery plantings across the U.S. in 1984 and 1985. Its yield index (seeds/vegetation) appears to be among the highest. It fills a need for a very early-maturing, high-yielding, virus and root rot resistant Pinto with improved seed size and color.

OTHELLO was developed by USDA/ARS at the Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center, Prosser, WA, in cooperation with the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station.

OTHELLO was tested under the experimental numbers gh-215 and gh-217. A similar sister line, gh-174, was also tested quite widely in the U.S. It is an F7 selection, now in the F11 generation, from the parentage NW-410 Pinto/2/Victor Pink/Aurora. (NW-410 = UI-114 Pinto/Sutter Pink; Victor = UI-35 Red Mex/1/PI 203958/2/UI-35/3/Sutter Pink/4/Aurora). The crosses, disease tests, and pedigreed selections were conducted in Washington state by D. W. Burke with assistance of A. W. Barker and E. F. Lambert. J. J. Kolar tested OTHELLO in Idaho and directed its evaluation in the inter-regional Cooperative Dry Bean Nurseries.
OTHELLO has equalled or exceeded the best among other Pinto cultivars at most of 17 to 19 U.S. and Canadian locations in rate of maturity, seed yield, and seed size, in the 1984 and 1985 growing seasons. In Washington, it has consistently outyielded other very early-maturing cultivars when grown under stress of Fusarium root rot and drought.

Cooking and food qualities of OTHHELLO were found similar to those of popular commercial Pinto cultivars in tests supervised by Mrs. Helen Koehler at the Washington State University Home Economics Research Center.

Breeder seed was produced in 1985 and both breeder seed and foundation seed will be produced in 1986. In Washington, production and distribution of breeder and foundation seed will be under the supervision of Mr. T. D. Wagner, Foundation Seed Service Manager, Washington State Crop Improvement Assoc., Inc., Dept. of Agronomy, WSU Seed House, Pullman, WA 99164.

In Idaho, production and distribution of foundation seed will be under the direction of the Director, Idaho Crop Improvement Assoc., Inc., 5284 Overland Road, Boise, ID 83705. Breeder seed will be maintained at the University of Idaho Branch Experiment Station, Route 1, Kimberly, ID 83341. Small quantities of seed for breeding and experimental purposes may be obtained from the latter agency and from the Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center, Prosser, WA 99350.

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J. McRae
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Date: SEP 8 1986