

GAZELLE SPRING RYE

Gazelle spring rye (*Secale cereale* L.) was developed by the Department of Crop Science, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Sask. and originated from a single plant selection made in an introduced strain of fall rye from Germany. It was tested as strain K9693. Gazelle has been superior in yield to Prolific spring rye in all tests conducted in Western Canada, the average yield increase over Prolific being about 30% (Table 1). It is similar to Prolific in plant height and maturity but is more resistant to ergot (*Claviceps purpurea* (Fr.) Tul.) infection. The kernels are similar in size to those of Prolific but they have a more uniform appearance and are superior in hectoliter weight and starch content.

License number 1528 was issued for the cultivar Gazelle by the Plant Products Division of the Production and Marketing Branch, Agriculture Canada, in March, 1974.

Description

SPIKE. Bearded, dense, tapered from base to tip, medium length.

KERNEL. Medium size, smooth surface, elliptical, grey-blue, uniform.

STRAW. Medium thickness, medium length, slightly less susceptible to lodging than Prolific.

MATURITY. About 100 days, the same as Prolific.

DISEASE REACTION. Less susceptible to ergot than Prolific.

Pedigreed Seed Stocks

Breeder seed will be maintained and distributed by the Department of Crop Science, University of Saskatchewan, in cooperation with the Canadian Seed Growers Association. An initial distribution of pedigreed seed was made in 1974 and a general release will be made in the spring of 1975.

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Table 1. Agronomic and quality characteristics of Prolific and Gazelle spring ryes in cooperative tests in Western Canada, 1970-1973

Cultivar	Yield (q/ha)	Days to mature	Height (cm)	Lodging resistance 1-9†	1,000-kernel wt (g)	Hecto-liter wt (kg)	Protein content (%)	Starch content (%)
Prolific	21.2	98	101	3.3	27	71	15.5	49.3
Gazelle	27.5	98	103	2.9	27	75	14.5	53.2
Station-years	27	9	17	7	18	18	8	5

†1 = resistant to lodging; 9 = susceptible to lodging.