

INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

and the

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

NOTICE OF RELEASE OF PERENNIAL FORAGE PEANUT  
'Florigraze'

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, and the United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, announce the release and naming of 'Florigraze,' perennial forage peanut, Arachis glabrata Benth.

This perennial forage peanut is a selection out of PI 118457 Arachis glabrata collected by W. A. Archer at Campo Grande, Matto Grosso, Brazil, South America, on February 9, 1936. It is believed to be a seedling or mutant from PI 118457.

'Florigraze' was selected in the spring of 1962 and was then designated as Gainesville Selection 1 (GS-1) by Dr. Gordon Prine, Professor of Agronomy, University of Florida.

'Florigraze' has many characteristics similar to PI 118457 but differs in having smaller rhizomes and stems and more of them per unit area. 'Florigraze' rhizomes germinate better than those of PI 118457 when planted and new plants spread faster giving more ground coverage in a shorter period of time.

'Florigraze' seasonal hay yield over 4 seasons has averaged 10,300 Kg/ha. In vitro organic matter digestibility was 62.2% with a protein content of 14.0%. A five-year hay average when growing in a mixture of Pensacola bahiagrass, Paspalum notatum Flugge, on Kanapaha fine sand at Gainesville, Florida was 10.6 mt/ha dry matter. Perennial peanuts should be grown in nearly pure stands for hay as it takes the peanut a most two months to grow tall enough to harvest., If grasses are allowed to grow for two months they are too mature for high quality hay.

'Florigraze' produces little if any seed, so propagation must be from )

rhizomes incorporated into a seedbed. Frost kills the topgrowth of 'Florigraze.' Growth of perennial peanuts is slow in spring and fall when night temperatures are cool. Therefore, perennial peanut is best suited below 30° latitude in the U.S.A. where the warm growing season is long enough for good forage production.

Planting trials indicate that the most successful plantings are made when the plants are dormant during December through February.

The perennial peanut, being a legume, readily fixes nitrogen when inoculated with proper rhizobium bacteria,

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences of the University of Florida will maintain for five years a breeders block of 'Florigraze.' The release will be handled through Mr. Jack Oswald and the Florida Foundation Seed Producers, Inc., P. O. Box 14006, University Station, Gainesville, Florida 32604.

The effective release date will be the date of the final signature.

H. H. Wilkov &- 2-24-78  
Director, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida Date

William S. ... 5/16/78  
State Conservationist, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Gainesville, Florida Date

Sharon M. Mitchell 5/17/78  
Director, Ecological Sciences and Technology Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, SCS, Washington, D.C., Date