

**Variety OL 1869-1**

OL 1869-1 (OL 13) is a single cut oat (*Avena sativa* L.) variety developed by Forage, Millets and Nutrition Section, Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana. The variety OL 1869-1 was developed from the cross OL 9 x OL 125 through pedigree method. It has been tested in the All India Coordinated Programme in AICRP on Forage Crops and Utilization (FCU) crops in Initial Varietal Trial and Advance Varietal Trials during *rabi* 2016-17 to 2018-19. Based on the better performance for fodder in the trials, it was identified by the Variety Identification Committee which met on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at National Group Meet of All India Coordinated Research Project on Forage Crops and Utilization held at CAU, Imphal. It was released and notified by the Central Sub-committee on Crop Standards, Notification and Release of Varieties for Agricultural Crops (CSC on CSN & RVAC) vide its gazette notification number S.O. 3482(E) October 7, 2020 for cultivation in whole of the irrigated areas of North West Zone and Central Zone comprising of states of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Tarai region of Uttarakhand, Western Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh. OL1869-1 (OL 13) recorded an average green fodder yield of 435.4 q/ha which was 6.0, and 11.7 per cent higher than the checks *viz.*, Kent (410.9q/ha), OS 6 (389.7q/ha), respectively. It

also showed its superiority for dry matter yield over both the national checks *viz.*, Kent (2.3%) and OS 6 (7.7%). The variety OL 1869-1 gave 4.2 % and 7.1 % higher per day productivity for green fodder yield than the national checks, Kent and OS 6, respectively. Similarly, this variety out yielded the national checks, Kent (2.1%) and OS 6 (4.2%) with respect to per day productivity for dry matter yield. The average plant height of this variety is about 124.5 cm. The distinguishing morphological traits include more number of leaves plant<sup>-1</sup>, high tillering ability and leaf stem ratio. It is ready for fodder cutting in 128 days after sowing. The new oat variety OL 1869-1 has shown moderate resistance to *Alternaria* leaf blight at multi-locations in North West Zone and Central Zone over the years during its testing. It produces bold seed with 4.28 g seed weight 100<sup>-1</sup> seeds. It possesses better nutritional quality in terms of crude protein (%), Neutral Detergent Fibre (NDF) (%) and Acid Detergent Fibre (NDF) (%) than the national checks. Its crude protein yield (q/ha) was also higher as compared to the national check to the tune of 8.6% (OS 6) but was at par to other national check *viz.*, Kent. The salient features of this variety are high green and dry fodder yield potential, number of leaves plant<sup>-1</sup>, high tillering ability and moderate resistance to *Alternaria* leaf blight with better nutritional quality. It is expected that the variety will gain preference among the oat growing farmers of North West Zone and Central Zone.

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