

Mifflin Restoration Native Seed Production and Pollinator Resource Area – Hoosier National Forest

2009 Accomplishments

Background

The Hoosier National Forest intends to establish an area of native warm season grass and forb production to further ecosystem restoration and habitat enhancement on the Hoosier National Forest. Establishment of the 10-15 acre site would provide a valuable resource for native pollinator species in area where plant diversity is lacking because of surrounding lands planted to agricultural production or pastures of nonnative species.

The intent is to establish approximately 5-6 species of native warm season grasses and 15-20 forbs that will form the foundation of early successional habitat plantings and restorations on the Forest. Native plant focal species include but not limited to are big and little bluestem, Indian grass, plus forbs such as sunflowers, coneflowers, mints, milkweeds, asters, obedient plant, Culver's root, blazingstar, and butterflyweed.

All of the species selected for inclusion in areas planted next to the vernal ponds and the seed mixture for the establishment of a native seed production area are native to southern Indiana and readily used by local pollinator species.

FY2009 Accomplishments

- Created 4 vernal wetlands in an old pasture
- Forest personnel and volunteer placement of both plug-sized and one gallon container stock of various native plant species around the vernal areas
- Herbicide application in early fall to remove tall fescue, other exotic grasses, and other undesirable species
- Purchase native seed for later fall planting by seed drill



Herbicide spraying to prepare area for fall 2009 native seeding with seed drill

Year Awarded: FY 2009
Project completion: (2009)
Report number: (1 of 1)

Expenditures:

- FY09 funding: \$24,000 (combination of native seed mixture and native plants)

Contractors (plant material):
JFNew Native Plant Nursery
Spence Restoration Nursery
Roundstone Native Seed

Contact Person & phone number:
Kirk W. Larson, (812) 277-3596



Hoosier National Forest
811 Constitution Avenue
Bedford, Indiana 47421



Student intern and volunteer placing container plants around the vernal wetlands