

Northern Arizona Native Plant Materials Program

2008 Accomplishments

Background: Recognizing a lack of local native seed available for use by land agencies and owners, the Native Plant Materials Program (NPMP) was funded to build partnerships that would positively affect the flow of information and seed from seed collectors to land owners and to increase the quantity of local native seed available.

Accomplishments:

- Agreements were signed between the USFS and the Museum of Northern Arizona (MNA) and The Arboretum of Flagstaff (ARB).
- The Forest Service purchased a DB Batch Debearder, and miscellaneous supplies.
- Program coordinators hired by MNA and ARB have been working with several cooperating agencies to coordinate large scale collecting trips and secure sites for increaser plots.
- A horticulturalist has been hired by The Arboretum.
- Cooperators/partners have collected 48 species of native grasses and forbs from a multi-agency developed list based upon initial criteria of: species historically used for restoration, species with long shelf-life, and species with high wildlife palatability.
- Collection locations range in elevation from lower pinyon juniper sites to aspen forests. Collected seed is utilized in research studies, increaser plots, and can be supplied directly to land agencies for immediate use or stored for future purposes.
- Informal partnerships have been developed with agencies such as the Arizona Game and Fish Department, to whom NPMP supplied 3 pounds of seed that were planted over 3.3 acres at Raymond Ranch Wildlife Area; and the Coconino Rural Environmental Corps, who has received training to aid in the collecting of seed.
- Fourteen individuals representing nine agencies or organizations, including state and federal agencies, universities, and non-profit organizations, attended a two day hands-on training session with the National Seed Lab held in August 2008, hosted by the NPMP partners.
- Eleven Northern Arizona Native Seed Association (NANSA) members attended a two-day educational field trip to Los Lunas Plant Materials Center in New Mexico.
- Volunteers contributed over 330 hours of labor performing such tasks as seed collection, and fencing sites for propagation beds.
- 4 seedbed/demonstration gardens were constructed at The Arboretum within their fenced grounds, of which 3 have been planted for germination testing.
- 3 seedbeds have been constructed at MNA, and fenced.
- NANSA held general and working group meetings Flagstaff to discuss relevant topics.



Volunteers collecting sideoats grama seed



National Seed Lab training at Arboretum

Year Awarded: 2008

Project completion: 2008

Expenditures:

- FY08 funding: \$83,000

Partners/Contractors/Coop:

Coconino, Kaibab and Prescott National Forests

Museum of Northern Arizona

- \$52,735 (USFS Agreement # 08-CS-11030420-016)

The Arboretum at Flagstaff

- \$19,975 (USFS Agreement # 08-CS-11030420-015)

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