

Native Genotypes for Southern Appalachian Bioregion

2012 Accomplishments

The project was developed in 2009 by the National Forests in NC to collect and establish Southern Appalachian grass and forb genotypes for evaluation and production. These genotypes will be utilized in the future to restore plant communities after invasive plant control projects or severe burns, for establishment in newly disturbed areas, and establishment for wildlife benefit.

The remaining funding used in FY 2012 allowed for maintenance and seed harvest from the existing beds at Warren Wilson College. Additional funding allocated to the Cherokee NF was used to develop, advertise, and award a contract for expanded production of all 11 species over a three year period. The contract was awarded to Roundstone Native Seed, LLC in the amount of \$54,396 late in fiscal year 12.

Under the provisions of the contract, Roundstone Seed will work with WWC to maintain and harvest seed from the existing 1 acre while putting an additional 2-3 acres under production at their facility in Upton, KY. Roundstone will be responsible for all seed cleaning, conditioning, testing, and storage in a temperature and humidity controlled warehouse. Over the course of the contract, the contractor will deliver status reports and agreed upon quantities of southern Appalachian ecotype seed. All seed will be cleaned, tested, labeled to species, and guaranteed to be 60% pure live seed (PLS) for grass species and 50% PLS for forb species, where PLS is determined as purity X total viable seed. Final delivery date within the scope of this contract is expected no later than April 1st, 2015.

In future years the Forest Service shall be granted first right of refusal on the purchase of additional southern Appalachian ecotype seed at a fixed (below market) rate to be negotiated with the contractor.



Production beds at Warren Wilson College



Deer tongue (*Dichanthelium clandestinum*) blooming at Warren Wilson College



Rows of little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)

Cherokee National Forest
2800 N. Ocoee St
Cleveland, TN 37312



National Forests in North Carolina
160A Zillicoa St.
Asheville, NC 28801

Year Awarded: 2009

Project completion: 2015

Report number: 4 of 7

Expenditures:

- FY09 funding: \$218,178
- FY10 funding: \$ 35,000
- FY11 funding; \$ 10,000
- FY 12 funding \$ 7,500 and \$54,396

Partners/Contractors/Coop:

North Carolina Botanical Garden, Warren Wilson College, USDA Beech Creek Seed Orchard, USDA National Seed Lab, Roundstone Native Seed LLC.

Contact Person & phone number:

Mark Pistrang, (423) 476-9757

Gary Kauffman, (828) 257-4861