

NOTICE OF RELEASE OF 'LASSEN' ANTELOPE BITTERBRUSH

U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service
Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station

and

U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service

and

Utah State Division of Wildlife Resources

and

Nevada Division of Forestry

and

California Department of Fish and Game

and

California Department of Forestry

and

California Agricultural Experiment Station

and

Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station

and

Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station

and

Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station

Announce the release and naming of 'Lassen' antelope bitterbrush
(Purshia tridentata [Pursh] DC)

Lassen seed was originally collected from stands growing near Janesville, Lassen County, California, by Eamor C. Nord. Initial testing was conducted in northeastern California by the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station. Testing was extended to Nevada, Utah, Idaho, and Oregon by the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, and the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station.

Native stands of Lassen occupy dry lake beds, alluvial fans or terraces, and lower foothills of the Sierra Nevada near Janesville. Soils are generally deep gravelly loamy coarse sands derived from granite and are slightly acid to neutral (pH 6.0 to 7.0). Permeability is rapid. Associated species are big sagebrush (Artemisia tridentata), rubber rabbitbrush (Chrysothamnus nauseosus), low rabbitbrush (Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus), arrowleaf balsamroot (Balsamorhiza sagittata), cheatgrass brome (Bromus tectorum), and ponderosa pine (Pinus ponderosa). Elevation of the area is approximately 1 265 m (4,150 ft). Mean annual precipitation is 37 cm (14.5 inches). The frost-free season averages 120 days with a range of 82 to 156 days. Average annual temperature is 9°C (49°F). Temperature extremes range from highs near 43°C (110°F) to lows of -9°C (15°F), although temperatures as low as -34°C (-29°F) have been reported.

Lassen is an upright leafy shrub that provides abundant available forage. It exhibits good seedling vigor, good to excellent seed production, and high growth rates on adapted sites. Plants are upright with few basal stems, long ascending leaders, and numerous leafy spurs. Fascicles of small grey-green leaves persist through the winter. Shrubs in the native stand exhibit a high degree of uniformity in growth habit and morphological characteristics that is retained in outplantings.

Lassen was selected for use in improving forage production and quality on big-game fall and winter ranges. Winter crude protein content of previous years' leader growth measured 7.9 percent with 30.6 percent digestibility. Lassen tolerates high levels of browsing and is used by big-game, birds, and livestock during all seasons. It also provides cover for big-game and other animals. Lassen is a useful shrub for restoring depleted rangelands, burrs, mined lands, and other disturbed sites. It is also an attractive shrub for plantings on roadways or recreation areas.

Lassen is well adapted to deep, coarse textured, well-drained neutral to slightly acidic soils in areas with 30 to 60 cm (12 to 24 inches) of annual precipitation. It is not well adapted to basic, fine textured or poorly drained soils. Areas of greatest adaptability are antelope bitterbrush/bunchgrass, sagebrush/grass, mountain brush, and ponderosa pine/antelope bitterbrush communities at elevations from 915 to 1 830 m (3,000 to 6,000 ft).

Certified seed may consist of seed harvested from wild stands within a designated collection area surrounding Janesville. Certified seed may also consist of seed harvested from seed orchards established with transplants grown from foundation seed. Certified seedlings may be grown from certified seed. Foundation seed will be collected from a controlled site within the Janesville area and maintained by the Nevada Division of Forestry in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game. Foundation plants will be reestablished in an orchard maintained by the Nevada Division of Forestry.

Recognized classes of seed therefore are foundation and certified. Although certified seed allows for two sources, harvest from wild stands and orchards, certified seed orchards may not be established with transplants grown from certified seed. There is no registered class.

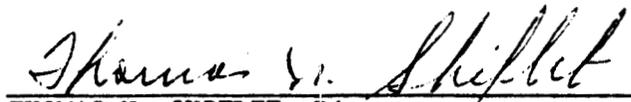
'LASSEN' ANTELOPE BITTERBRUSH RELEASE NOTICE

Approval by:



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Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service

Date 8/13/84



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Ecological Sciences and Technology Division
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service

Date 3/13/84



DOUGLAS F. DAY, Director
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Date 3/16/84



L. V. SMITH, State Forester/Fire Warden
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Date 3/29/84



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