



Plant Materials Program 2000 HIGHLIGHTS

Products and Accomplishments

About the Program

The mission of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Plant Materials Program is to develop and transfer effective state-of-the-art Plant Sciences Technology to meet customer and resource needs. NRCS Plant Materials activities are consistent with the objectives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and NRCS Strategic Plans, namely to provide timely and effective vegetative solutions for resource needs.

To accomplish this purpose, NRCS operates and maintains its Plant Materials Program with a network of 26 Plant Materials Centers and 15 Plant Materials Specialists. Products from the program include plant releases, written plant science information, and oral presentations.

Conservation Plant Releases for Commercial Production

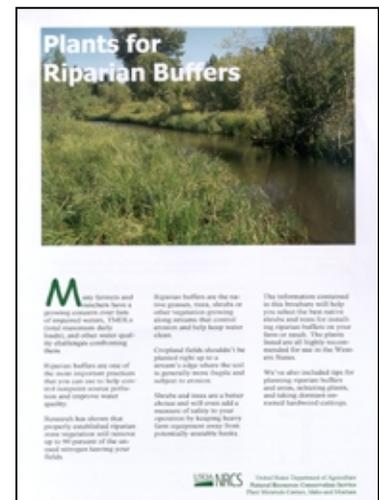
There were 24 new plant releases in fiscal year 2000 in support of conservation issues such as buffers, wetland creation and restoration, wildlife habitat, forage improvement, bioengineering, soil stabilization, windbreaks/shelterbelts, and roadside revegetation. All releases were native plants.



Bismarck Germplasm violet prairie clover, a 2000 release by the Bismarck, ND PMC

Written Technology Transfer

Type of Publication	Number
Technical Notes	51
Stand-alone Publications	17
Popular Articles	187
Technical and Progress Reports	98
Plant Guides and Fact Sheets	101
Published Symposia, Posters, and Refereed Papers	100
Total Publications	554



Oral Technology Transfer

Type of Presentation	Number	# of People
Training Sessions	112	3,888
Tours	164	2,937
Local Presentations	296	23,113
Regional Presentations	82	8,901
National Presentations	20	2,130
International Presentations	11	2,889
Total Presentations	685	43,848



Demonstration of a waterjet for planting live stakes for streambank bioengineering

Commercial Production of NRCS Releases in 2000

There are a total of 508 releases in the Plant Materials Program, over 406 of which are still considered active. The following table summarizes the commercial production of 286 plant releases in commercial production in 2000.

Type	Amount	Value
Foundation Seed	9,950 lbs.	\$150,170
Certified Seed	7,812,520 lbs.	\$45,954,268
Common Seed	8,675,177 lbs.	\$48,282,329
All Plants	735,059,136 ea.	\$27,882,817
Total Value		\$122,269,584

Plantings to Support Technology and Plant Development

- There were 564 studies with 58,968 plots and 167,001 plot evaluations in 2000.
- 1,298 Field Plantings were on Farms and Ranches.
- 414 Conservation Field Trials were in place to evaluate and demonstrate new technology.



Evaluation of eastern gamagrass at the Big Flats, NY PMC

For more information on the Plant Materials Program, visit our web site at:

<http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov>

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