

USDA-NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
NOTICE OF RELEASE
OF
TAZEWELL GERMPLASM ROUGHLEAF DOGWOOD
CORNUS DRUMMONDII

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NCR), the Elsberry Plant Materials Center at Elsberry, Missouri announces the release of Tazewell Germplasm roughleaf dogwood, *Cornus drummondii*, Meyer, as "SELECT CLASS" for wildlife food and cover and windbreaks.

Tazewell Germplasm has been assigned the NRCS accession number 9055667.

Origin:

Tazewell County, Illinois

Ecotype Description:

Roughleaf dogwood is a small native tree (5-6 m tall) with a very general distribution throughout the states of Missouri, Illinois and southern Iowa. It is probably found in every county in Missouri. The leaves are opposite, borne simply; very rough above, woolly beneath. Flowers small and white in color; unlike the flowering dogwood, the flowers of this species have no large petal-like bracts. Fruits are white, berry-like drupe; globular 6-7 mm. diameter, with minute, tightly appressed hairs and milky flesh. Seeds greenish-white or tan, often red when young, 4-5 mm long, hairy; leaf scars narrow, crescent-shape with ends and center widened; pitch white and large. The bark is gray-brown, thin, scaly with short plates or long, flat strips, wood is hard and white. Trees rarely become large enough to attain a definite pattern. Roughleaf dogwood is predominantly cross-pollinated with some self-pollination. *Cornus* is from the Latin word cornu, "horn"; drummondii is in honor of Thomas Drummond, Scottish Botanist, 1780-1835.

Development:

Tazewell Germplasm was selected out of an assembly of 55 collections of roughleaf dogwood planted on the Plant Materials Center in April 1990. After seven years of comparative evaluations, this accession was selected based on the following characteristics: fruit production, insect and disease resistance, form and seedling vigor. This selection has been tested on various soil types throughout the state of Illinois. Plant performance has ranged from good to excellent. This dogwood is able to survive drier and more exposed soil conditions than any other species in Illinois and is often found around limestone glades and rocky exposed outcrops.

Seed Production:

Tazewell Germplasm was the best fruit producer of all the accessions included in this assembly from the state of Illinois. Average yield of fruit per individual tree ranges from

5-8 bulk pounds. It takes four to five years for new transplants to produce quantities of fruits.

This selection has approximately 15,000 clean seeds per pound. Average seed weight is approximately 3.70 grams per 100 seeds.

Site Description:

This collection was made from a native stand located on land owned by the Illinois Department of conservation (IDC), in Tazewell County, near Pekin, Illinois: Range 2W, Township 24N, Section 2. Soil series is a Roxetta-Fayette type.

Climate:

The average annual temperature is 52.1 degrees Fahrenheit. July is the warmest month with an average high of 86.9 degrees and low of 64.8 degrees. January is the coldest month with an average high of 32.3 degrees and low of 15.4 degrees. The average annual precipitation for this region is 34.2 inches with much of this coming during the growing season. The average frost-free growing period runs from April 20 to October 11.

Availability of Plant Materials:

Breeders material is being produced by the Plant Materials Center, Elsberry, Missouri.

Release Approved By:

Roger A. Hansen, Missouri State Conservationist 10-2-97
Chairman, PM Advisory Committee, NRCS

William J. Gradle, Illinois State Conservationist 10-29-97

Leroy Brown, Iowa State Conservationist 10-21-97

References

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A Field Guide to Trees and Shrubs; p. 77, 78; Peterson, R. T. and McKenny, M. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, Mass., 1968.

Trees of Missouri; p. 109; Settergren, C. and McDermott, R. E., University of Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, Columbia, Missouri, 1968.

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