



*Mid-South
Plant
News*

Jamie L. Whitten Plant Materials Center - Coffeerville, MS

Spring/Summer, 2011

2011 Wildflower Tour Draws Crowds to MSPMC



Joelle Carney and Adrienne Clark from the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science talk about pollinators.

This year's Wildflower Tour was held on June 15 at the MSPMC. We had a good turnout despite the heat. Visitors had the opportunity to tour the Center and to listen to several presentations on topics such as low-maintenance landscaping, native pollinators, and gardening with native plants.



Wildflower Tour - 2011

Teachers' Workshop Attendees Tour the MSPMC



On June 9, The MSPMC hosted a tour for local teachers working on continuing education credits. Attendees were given a walking tour of our pollinator garden and then we loaded up on the wagon for a tour of wildflower and native grass production fields.

MSPMC Plants Two Demos for CSP Water Quality Enhancement



Jon Allison at the controls.

The purpose of these two plantings of warm-season native grasses in Tallahatchie County was to demonstrate the CSP enhancement, ANM04, a water quality enhancement. The practice is used to extend existing filter strips for water quality protection and increase wildlife habitat.

One demo was on the east side of the county and the other on the west side. Buddy Etheridge was the landowner outside of Charleston and Flat Grassy Farms, Thorton Marley was the landowner between Sumner and Tutwiler. The plantings were done in early June, 2011.

The NWSG mix was little bluestem, big bluestem, Indiangrass, and switchgrass. It was planted at a 4 lb/acre rate PLS. Lark Selection partridge pea was added to the mix for pollinator/quail benefits. These plots will be useful for other interested landowners to observe as well as NRCS staff in the Area IV.

Snakes Not Uncommon at the MSPMC



Timber rattlesnake strikes a pose for our camera.

We have our share of reptiles around here at the PMC. Rat snakes, speckled kingsnakes, water snakes, copperheads, water moccasins, and rattlers are the snakes we see the most. The picture above was snapped one morning this past July. This rather handsome timber rattler was about 3 – 4 feet in length. After our photo shoot we said farewell and parted ways.

Looking for Information on Vegetative Solutions to Conservation Problems?

[Visit the Plant Materials Program Website!](#)

- Plant Fact Sheets on conservation plants.
- Information on obtaining conservation plants.
- Publications and technology development from 27 PMCs across the country.
- New improved plants, uses and technology.
- Links to websites with additional or supporting information.

United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service

[Jamie L. Whitten Plant Materials Center](#)



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James Pomerlee – Gardener
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