

March 11, 2004

WEST VIRGINIA BULLETIN NO: WV190-4-1

SUBJECT: ECS – Request for Plant Materials for 2004

Purpose: To solicit requests for field plantings

Expiration Date: December 31, 2004

Field plantings of plant materials developed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service are established to document the performance of plants that are candidates for release to commercial seed or nursery stock growers or are recent releases that we are attempting to expose to field conservationists and landowners. The plantings are planned to gather evidence of performance across a wide range of geographic areas, soils, land uses, and management levels.

Requests for materials must be submitted on an ECS-9 Planting Plan for Field Plantings form http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/intranet/wv_forms/ecs9rev1_01.pdf filled out completely. Attachment #1 to this bulletin provides the information needed to fill in plant names, cultivars, seeding rates and plant spacing, and uses of the plant to be evaluated, and the standard of comparison. All the site information, including the establishment methods and site history, must be given. Specifications on fertilizer, lime, and mulch are available from technical guide standards and specifications, conservation plant sheets, soil tests, and the Plant Materials Center Manager, John Vandevender.

Area Plant Materials Representatives must receive completed planting plans by March 31, 2003. Area Plant Materials Representatives should check the plans for completeness, correct or add the appropriate information, and forward the plans to John Vandevender, PMC Manager by March 20, 2002. John Vandevender's address is P. O. Box 390, Alderson, WV 24910-0390. The Area Plant Materials Representatives are:

East Area: Tom White, DC, Keyser, WV
West Area: Carlos Cole, ARSS, Ripley, WV
South Team: Tom Vance, DC, Lewisburg, WV

The field planting program is a plant evaluation process. To effectively evaluate the material, it must be established properly and uniformly, be located precisely on a location map, and be evaluated on a regular basis for an extended period of time. Field office personnel should request the material only if they are willing to supervise the planting, map the location of each accession, and evaluate the plantings.

/s/ Richard Heaslip, acting for

**LILLIAN V. WOODS
State Conservationist**

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PLANT MATERIALS AVAILABLE FOR FIELD EVALUATIONS
IN 2004 FOR WEST VIRGINIA

NEW PLANTS BEING EVALUATED FOR RELEASE

Arrehenatherum elatius, Tall Oatgrass - The accession 9061649 is a candidate for release at the Alderson Plant Materials Center for forage production on shallow, acid soils and mine reclamation. At least two acres are required for the field planting: one acre for the oatgrass and one acre for the standard of comparison, which is 'Potomac' orchardgrass. The planting sites should be at least well drained and preferably droughty. The goal is one planting per area in each state.

Dactylis glomerata, orchardgrass - The accession 9007238 is a candidate for release at the Alderson Plant Materials Center for forage production on droughty soils. At least two acres are required for the planting : one for 9007238, and one for 'Potomac', the standard of comparison. The site should at least well drained and preferably droughty. The goal is one planting per area in each state.

RELEASED PLANTS AVAILABLE FOR DEMONSTRATION
AND SPECIAL PROJECT PLANTINGS IN 2004

A partial listing of released plant materials available for demonstration and special project plantings follows. This list is not all inclusive, and quantities for many of these plants are extremely limited.

Cynodon dactylon, Bermudagrass - 'Quickstand'
Quercus acutissima, Sawtooth oak - 'Gobbler'
Salix cotetti, Dwarf willow - 'Bankers'
Salix exigua, Sandbar Willow - 'Greenbank'
Casranea pumila, chinquapin - 'Golden'

Suggestions for use of these plants include: outdoor classrooms, wildlife plantings, field office mini-gardens. The Bermudagrass can be evaluated for Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative plantings to demonstration of new forages or as heavy use area protection for livestock feeding areas and athletic fields.

Contact John Vandevender, Plant Materials Manager (Ph. 304-445-3005) to determine plant availability before finalizing planting plans for any demonstration or special project planting.