

## **Native Plant Materials for Private Lands**

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The NRCS Plant Materials Program continues to test plants for their potential to solve conservation problems, work with private seed and plant vendors to obtain production of selected plants, and provide use recommendations to private land owners. The PM program has released over 613 named plants since its inception, 420 of which are native to the United States, and since the year 2000 the program has released almost exclusively native materials. The majority of newer plant releases have been in the Source Identified or Selected classes, which means they have had no intentional selection pressures applied. Since 2003 western Plant Material Centers have released, or participated in the release of Toe Jam Creek Germplasm Squirreltail (*Elymus elymoides* ssp. *californicus*); Fish Creek Germplasm Squirreltail (*Elymus elymoides* ssp. *elymoides*); Anatone Germplasm snake river wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata* ssp. *spicata*); Maple Grove Germplasm Prairie flax (*Linum lewisii*); Stillwater Germplasm Prairie Coneflower (*Ratibida columnifera*); Spirit Germplasm Sweetgrass (*Hierochloa odorata*); Trapper Germplasm Western Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos occidentalis*); and in FY 2005 the Arizona PMC released Cochise Germplasm Spike Dropseed (*Sporobolus contractus*); the Colorado PMC released Pueblo Germplasm Squirreltail (*Elymus elymoides*); Wapiti Germplasm Squirreltail (*Elymus elymoides*); and the Hawaii PMC released Kaho olawe Germplasm Kawelu (*Eragrostis variabilis*). Elsewhere in the United States Plant Material Centers in Missouri released 14 plant selections, Michigan 5, North Dakota 5, Georgia 4, New York 2, South Texas 2, Knox City Texas 2, East Texas 1, Florida 1, Mississippi/Georgia 1; Kansas/Texas 1, Kansas 1, Louisiana 1 and Arkansas 1.