# Plant Chat

October 2017 Volume 17, Issue 4
A Newsletter Published by the Bismarck Plant Materials Center for NRCS Field Offices in North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota

#### **Available Plant Materials for 2018**

Cupplant Silphium perfoliatum		
Type	Forb	
Material	Seed or Plants	
	Amount 1/2 pound seed or 10 plants	
(max)		

The PMC will provide the cupplant seed or plants, evaluation forms, and technology assistance related to establishment. The sponsor and cooperator are responsible for planting/seeding, maintenance and completing evaluations for three years. See Page 2 for species details.

Pollinator Forb Interseeding			
Purpose	Interseed forbs into existing planting		
Species	Determine by NRCS and cooperator		
Size	1/10 <sup>th</sup> acre/plot 2 plots/state		

The PMC will provide equipment and staff to interseed forbs into existing USDA farm program plantings where increased pollinator forbs are desired. The PMC will provide evaluation forms and technology assistance. The sponsor and cooperator are responsible for purchasing seed, maintenance and completing evaluations for 3 years.

#### **Special Plantings**

Limited amounts of other seed or plants may be available for demonstration, education and research.

#### Foundation Seed

Foundation seed is available to anyone interested in producing conservation grass and forb seed. See page 2 for available species.

#### To request Cupplant

- -complete the NRCS-ECS-9-form
- -send completed NRCS-ECS-9 forms to your States Plant Material Contact

#### To request Pollinator Forb Mix for Interseeding

-Contact your State Plant Materials Contact

#### To request Special Plantings or Foundation Seed

-contact Wayne Markegard, Plant Materials Specialist at <u>wayne.markegard@nd.usda.gov</u> or the Plant Materials Center at 701-989-6122

State Plant Materials Contact				
Minnesota	Mark Oja			
	USDA, NRCS			
Request due	375 Jackson Street, Suite 600			
by November	St. Paul, MN 55101			
24, 2017	.mark.oja@mn.usda.gov_			
North Dakota	Wayne Markegard			
	USDA, NRCS, PMC			
Request due	3308 University Drive			
by November	Bismarck, ND 58504			
24, 2017	.wayne.markegard@nd.usda.gov.			
South Dakota	Tim Nordquist			
	USDA, NRCS Fld Support			
Requests due	Service Center			
by December	414 E Stumer Rd, Suite 700			
22, 2017	Rapid City, SD 57701			
	timothy.nordquist@sd.usda.gov			

### **New PMC Telephone Numbers**

Staff at the PMC can be reached by dialing the PMC main line at 701-250-4330 and then dialing their new extension numbers listed below. Calls directly to a specific staff can be made by dialing 701+989+new extension number.

STAFF	EXTENSION	
Wayne Duckwitz	6116	
Nancy Jensen	6118	
Wayne Markegard	6122	

#### **Available Plant Materials for 2018**

#### **Cupplant (Silphium perfoliatum)**

Cupplant is a native, perennial species of the tall grass prairie region. It grows well in sandy, moist bottomlands, floodplains, near stream beds, and in or adjacent to open woodlands. It has a central taproot and shallow rhizomes and is able to form dense colonies good for wildlife habitat. Cupplant is 3-8 feet tall and forms extensive thick root systems. It is attractive to pollinating insects, an excellent food source for livestock and wildlife and popular as a tall landscape plant. In the Dakota's it is found naturally only in the extreme eastern portion of each state. In Minnesota, it is found primarily in the southern half of the state. The PMC would like to evaluate cupplant in a diversity of plantings to determine its potential uses. The PMC will provide seed and will assist in evaluations.

**Suggested plantings**: Pollinator plantings, wildlife habitat, riparian zones, prairie restoration, filter strips

When to Seed: Late Spring or Dormant (follow recommended dates in your state for cool season grasses if dormant planted)

#### **Seeding Rate**

State	PLS pounds/ac (full rate)	Seeds/ft² (full rate)	% in Mix (recommended)
Minnesota	10.0	5	1-5
South	10.0	5	1-5
Dakota			
Minnesota	10.0	5	1-5

## Foundation Seed for Certified Seed Production Available for 2018

Cultivar (Variety)	Common Name	
Native Grasses		
Badlands ecotype	little bluestem	
Bison	big bluestem	
Bonilla	big bluestem	
Bounty germplasm	big bluestem	
Dacotah	switchgrass	
Forestburg	switchgrass	
Pierre	sideoats grama	
Tomahawk	Indiangrass	
Red River germplasm	prairie cordgrass	
Introduced Grasses		
Mankota	Russian wildrye	
Manifest	Intermediate wheatgrass	
Manska	pubescent wheatgrass	
Reliant	intermediate wheatgrass	
Nordan	crested wheatgrass	