

Animal Enhancement Activity – ANM 23 – Multi-species native perennials for biomass/wildlife habitat



Enhancement Description

This enhancement consists of establishing native perennial vegetation for biomass production and wildlife habitat.

Land Use Applicability

Cropland, pastureland and rangeland

Benefits

Establishing multi-species native perennial vegetation and managing for both biomass and wildlife can provide natural resource and financial benefits.

Criteria

1. Biomass fields should be managed for species of conservation concern as identified by the NRCS State Office and State Wildlife Action Plans.
2. After establishment, the field will be protected from grazing and disturbance during the primary nesting and fawning season as defined by the NRCS State Office.
3. A management plan covering the length of the contract will be developed for this enhancement activity. Management actions and their impact on affected wildlife species will be addressed.
4. Harvesting of biomass must be in accordance with a written management plan that minimizes impacts on wildlife species, especially grassland nesting birds. Partial removal in late summer/early fall to allow for re-growth for winter cover should be addressed in the management plan, where winter conditions interfere with late season harvest.
5. Field borders using forbs and grasses should be established and managed to accommodate edge species and pollinators.

Documentation Requirements

Following implementation of this activity, the landowner must document the establishment of multi-species native vegetation suitable for biomass production and wildlife habitat. A brief written description of the actions taken and planned; receipts and dates; and a map or aerial photograph delineating the location of the established vegetation must be provided.

Michigan Supplement

Animal Enhancement Activity – ANM23 – Multi-Species Native Perennials for Biomass/Wildlife Habitat

After establishment, plantings should be protected from grazing and disturbance during Michigan’s primary bird nesting dates and cervid fawning dates: April 15 – August 1.

Delineate biomass/wildlife habitat planting site on the conservation plan map.

Planting rates for grass mixtures are in pounds per acre.

Warm Season Grasses	Biomass	Wildlife
Big bluestem	10 PLS*	0.5-2 PLS* in mixtures
Eastern gamagrass	10 PLS*	Not recommended
Indiangrass	10 PLS*	1.5-2 PLS* in mixtures
Little bluestem	Not recommended	3 PLS* in mixtures
Switchgrass	10 PLS*	0.25-1 PLS* in mixtures

Planting rates for grass and forb mixtures are in pounds per acre.

Mix	Recommended species	PLS lbs/ac
Short-grass Prairie Planting (Mineral soils-mesic through dry sites)	Little bluestem	3.0
	Canada wild rye	1.75
	June grass (or appropriate substitute)	0.25
	Forbs (7-20 species)	≥1.0
	Total	6.0
Moderate-height Prairie Planting (Mineral soils-wet mesic through dry sites)	Little bluestem	2.0
	Indian grass	1.5
	Big bluestem	0.5
	Canada wild rye	0.5
	Switchgrass	0.5
	Forbs (7-20 species)	≥1.0
	Total	6.0
Tall Grass Prairie Planting (Mineral soils- wet mesic through dry sites)	Big bluestem	2.0
	Indian grass	2.0
	Switchgrass	0.5
	Canada wild rye	0.5
	Forbs (7-20 species)	≥1.0
	Total	6.0
Tall Grass Prairie Planting (Mineral soils-wet mix)	Prairie cord grass	0.5
	Big bluestem	2.0
	Switchgrass	2.5
	Forbs (7-20 species)	1.0
	Total	6.0
Winter Cover Mineral soils	Switchgrass	5.0
	Total	5.0

Management Actions	Date planned to implement:	Date completed:

Seed tags and receipts must be submitted to the NRCS Field Office staff.

Signature Owner/Operator

Date

NRCS Signature

Date