

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.



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

Reference:

645 – Upland Wildlife Habitat Management

- **Biology Jobsheet 12 – Tall Grass Prairie**

338 – Prescribed Burning

- **Biology TechNote 13: Planning and Conducting Prescribed Burns in Minnesota**

NATIVE GRASSES, FORBS AND LEGUMES

Native grass seed origin shall be within a 200 mile radius of the project site, unless otherwise identified as an acceptable cultivar.

The following are native grasses:

Big Bluestem

Indiangrass

Green Needlegrass

Little Bluestem

Sideoats Grama

Prairie Sandreed

Canada Wildrye

Slender Wheatgrass

Western Wheatgrass

Blue Grama

Switchgrass

Canada Bluejoint

Prairie Cordgrass

Virginia Wildrye

Kalms Brome



FORBS AND LEGUMES

Forbs and legumes with origins native to Minnesota are preferred. When local Minnesota seed sources are not available, native forbs and legume seed shall originate from Wisconsin, northern Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, northern Iowa, and the Canadian provinces of southern Manitoba and Ontario. If the true origin of the seed can be certified as one of the accepted states or provinces, then there would be no restriction on where the seed is grown. Certification must be provided by the grower, and responsibility for obtaining certification rests with the producer.

The following list identifies native forbs and wildflowers beneficial to upland wildlife and native habitat restoration. The list is not inclusive, and identifies those species, which are readily available through private vendor seed supplies.

DRY	MESIC to WET	DRY to WET
Bush Clover	Canada Tick Trefoil	Black-eyed Susan
Dotted Blazingstar	Common Ox-eye	Illinois Bundleflower
Purple Coneflower	Giant Sunflower	Purple Prairie Clover
Showy Penstemon	Golden Alexanders	Maximillian Sunflower
Silky Aster	Partridge Pea	Stiff Goldenrod
DRY to MESIC	Rattlesnake Master	Yarrow
Butterfly Weed	Tall Blazingstar	
Compass Plant	Wild Bergamot	
Hoary Vervain	Yellow Coneflower	
Leadplant	WET	
Prairie Smoke	Blue Vervain	
Rough Blazingstar	Boneset	
Showy Goldenrod	Joe-pye Weed	
Smooth Aster	New England Aster	
Stiff Tickseed	Panicled Aster	
	Swamp Milkweed	

The field will be protected from grazing and disturbance during the primary nesting and fawning season, which is **May 1 to July 15**.