

TECHNICAL NOTES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

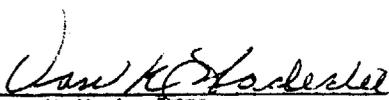
PLANT MATERIALS No. 28

Bozeman, Montana
May 19, 1981

RE: Procedure for Vegetative Collections of Herbaceous Plant Materials.
By Larry K. Holzworth, Plant Materials Specialist

1. Collect dormant (drought or winter) plant materials if possible.
2. Locate representative stands occurring with some abundance.
3. Collect samples from superior individuals within a stand of the desired species.
4. Collect clonal and/or total clump material from an area of at least 3 ft² (sod) or 10 clumps.
5. Excavate plant roots to a depth that insures adequate root mass for transplanting or cloning.
6. Shake bulk of soil from root mass, but leave a soil layer covering individual roots. Remove all other foreign matter, i.e., dead stems, trash, etc. (for dormant grasses, soil can be washed from roots prior to packaging as long as they are kept moist).
7. To limit the mass of material, clip herbage to an 8 inch stubble height, if appropriate.
8. Obtain pieces of burlap, paper towels, sphagnum moss, or other absorptive materials.
9. Soak in water and squeeze out all free water.
10. Place damp material around the entire specimen, especially the roots.
11. Package in plastic bags and seal, removing as much air as possible.
12. Place in an adequate sized, but compact container.
13. Mail immediately to the Bridger Plant Materials Center.
14. Mail early in week to avoid weekend Post Office layover.
15. If collection is made too late in the week to mail, store in cool (refrigerator, if possible), dry location, and ship early the following week.

NOTE: Once excavated, the entire procedure has to be carried out in a timely manner to avoid specimen dessication.


Van K Haderlie
State Conservationist

FILE: REFERENCE MATERIAL - Plant Materials