

LOBELEAF GROUNDSEL

Packera multilobata (Torr. &
A. Gray ex A. Gray) W.A.
Weber & A. Löve
Plant Symbol = PAMU11

Project description

The Aberdeen Plant Materials Center (PMC) is beginning a study of lobeleaf groundsel (*Packera multilobata*) with the goal of a selected class release.

Lobeleaf groundsel is a biennial or short-lived perennial forb native to the sagebrush steppe and pinyon-juniper plant communities from California to Colorado. This species has potential for use in rangeland and restoration seedings throughout the Aberdeen PMC service area.

The PMC plans to make wildland seed collections in the summer of 2011 and begin initial evaluation studies in 2012. We need your assistance and help in locating stands, monitoring seed maturity and assisting with seed collection.

Description



Lobeleaf groundsel is a short-lived forb growing from a taproot. The plants grow to 60 cm (2 ft) tall and are easily recognized by their pinnately lobed leaves. The leaves may be lacking hairs or wooly. The flowers are yellow, daisy-like with a yellow center. The fruit is an achene with a white pappus.



Habitat

Lobeleaf groundsel is found in a variety of plant communities from desert shrub, sagebrush steppe and pinyon-juniper to lodgepole pine and spruce-fir communities from 1,000 to over 3,000 m (3,200 to 9,800 ft).

Time to collect

Plants flower in late spring to mid-summer. Seed is ripe in late June to mid July and remains on the plant until blown off.

How to collect

Seed can be collected by stripping inflorescences and seed by hand into paper sacks, or by pruning inflorescences using shears. For genetic diversity, each seed collection should be made from no fewer than 50 plants. To provide enough seed for testing, out-planting and evaluation, we recommend collecting about a half to a full shopping sack worth of materials depending on the amount of inert matter. More seed is always better.

Selection criteria

Select plants from large healthy stands with good overall vigor, good seed production, and leafiness. Special selection criteria might include plants found on particularly harsh sites, good seedling establishment traits (young plants found near mother plants), and good early season growth.

Things to include

Along with your seed collection, please include a completed NRCS seed collection form NRCS-ECS-580:

<http://plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov/intranet/Publications/ecs580.pdf>.

If possible, also include a pressed voucher specimen and photos of the site and individual plants.

Thanks: Cooperation from field offices and other agencies is essential for the PMC to produce the best plant material products possible. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Any questions or comments should be directed to Derek Tilley or Loren St. John at the PMC - Phone: (208) 397-4133 or to Dan Ogle at the Idaho state office – Phone: (208) 685-6987.

Seed should be sent to the PMC at:

USDA-NRCS, Aberdeen PMC
P.O. Box 296
1691A S. 2700 W.
Aberdeen, ID 83210

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