



SEED COLLECTION REQUEST

Common Name: Willowleaf Sunflower
Scientific Name: *Helianthus salicifolius*

Morphological Characteristics:

- Perennial, native, warm-season forb
- Slender, smooth stems reach 3-8 feet in height
- The narrow, drooping leaves are 8-16 inches long and are covered with short, soft hair
- Typical sunflower flower heads are about 2 inches across and have yellow to purplish-brown disk flowers and large yellow to lemon-yellow ray flowers.
- Found on rocky outcrops of heavy soils and shallow, rocky limestone slopes
- Palatable, nutritious, and readily eaten by all classes of livestock.
- Seed is eaten by bob-whites, prairie chicken, and other wild birds.



Conservation Use:

Why collect this plant? Texas Plant Materials Centers have identified this plant as having potential benefits to the following conservation practice standards:

- 342- Critical Area Planting
- 550- Range Planting
- 647- Early Successional Habitat Development/Management
- 645- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
- 327- Conservation Cover

Your assistance in collecting this plant helps support the NRCS conservation practice standards which are employed daily to conserve the natural resources of Texas!

Center Requesting Seed:

USDA-NRCS James E. “Bud” Smith Plant Materials Center
3950 FM 1292 Suite 100
Knox City, TX 79529

How to Collect Seed:

1. Identify native plant stands in your area. You can go to the following websites for helpful photos.
2. Determine if seed is mature. Mature seed is typically dry and will easily separate from the seed head.
3. Hand strip mature seed by grasping the bottom of the seed head, then gently pulling away from the base of the plant. Deposit seed in a brown paper bag or seed envelope.

- a. Please do not use a plastic bag
- b. Moisture will collect and mold seed.
4. Collect seed from a minimum of 30-50 plants.
5. Label each collection as it is made so collections do not get mixed up. Information required includes:
 - a. Collector's name, number of plants collected
 - b. Location (county, city, highway, and GPS coordinates)
 - c. Site description (soil type, slope, and plants growing in association).
6. Complete NRCS-ECS-580, plant collection information form, and mail with collected seed to the NRCS Plant Materials Center requesting the collection.

Helpful Tips:

Look for superior plants that display differences in color, height, or forage abundance and record observations. Differences in growing site or location should be made into separate collections if they are separated by more than 1 mile.

Other Photos:



Helping People Help the Land

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