

Visitor Information

The Plant Materials Center is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday. Call to make an appointment to tour or visit the Center.

The Plant Materials Center is located 2 miles north from Knox City on Highway 6 and 2.5 miles west on FM Road 1292.

Mailing Address

USDA-NRCS
Plant Materials Center
3776 FM 1292
Knox City, Texas 79529-2514

Office Phone: (940) 658-3922
Fax: (940) 658-3047

<http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov>

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The Mission of the NRCS Plant Materials Program

To develop and transfer plant materials and plant technology for the conservation of natural resources in working with a broad range of plant species, such as grasses, forbs, legumes, shrubs, and trees. The program seeks to address priority needs of field offices and land managers in both public and private sectors. Emphasis is focused on using native plants as a healthy way to solve conservation problems and protect the ecosystems.



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Plant Materials Center

James E. "Bud" Smith

Plant Materials Center

Knox City, Texas



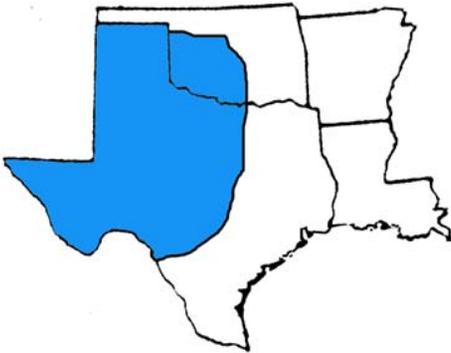
The Center

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|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Established | 1965 |
| Size | 137.5 Acres |
| Land Ownership | Private |
| Operation | NRCS |

On September 7, 1967, the center was officially named James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center who dedicated his services in plant materials work and a true pioneer in this field.

The primary area of service of the Plant Materials Center is in a unique and diverse range in topography, climatic factor, and vegetation in Texas and Oklahoma.

Service Area



The Needs

The major plant materials needs for both Texas and Oklahoma are set in each state's long-range plan for plant materials

Conservation needs for which plant materials and technology are being developed at the Plant Materials Center includes:

Plant selection and cultural techniques for saline and/or alkaline soil conditions.

Species selection and cultural techniques development for the enhancement of water quality, improvement of range, and cover for wildlife.

Plant selections and techniques for stabilization of sandy soils which have high erosion potential.

Woody species for wind erosion control and wildlife habitat in windbreaks.

Ground cover vegetation for critically eroding areas to reduce soil loss and improve water quality.

Wetland vegetation selection and cultural techniques for water quality improvement

Cooperators

Texas Natural Resources Conservation Service

Oklahoma Natural Resources Conservation Service

Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Texas Cooperative Extensions

Texas Agricultural Experiment Stations

Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Stations

USDI—National Park Service

USDA—Agricultural Research Service

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Texas Forest Service

Oklahoma Division of Forestry

Texas Foundation Seed Service

TX Dept. of Mental Health And Mental Retardation

Texas A & M University

Texas Tech University

Oklahoma State University

University of Texas Lands

US Army Corp of Engineers

Texas Transportation Institute