

## Contact Us

Visitors are welcome at the PMC.  
Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Please call before visiting to ensure a staff  
member will be available.

USDA-NRCS  
James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center  
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## James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center

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## Who We Are

The James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center (PMC) began as the Soil Erosion Service San Antonio Nursery during the 1930's. The nursery was moved to Knox City, Texas in 1965 and in 1967 was named James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center after a man who dedicated his services to plant materials work and a true pioneer in this field. Bud retired from the Soil Conservation Service in 1965 following thirty years of public service as an agronomist, nursery manager and plant materials specialist in Oklahoma and Texas.

The PMC is part of the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and is one in a network of 27 plant materials centers providing vegetative solutions to conservation challenges. The service area of the PMC encompasses a unique and diverse range of topography, climatic and vegetative factors in northwestern Texas, eastern New Mexico, western Oklahoma, southeastern Colorado and southwestern Kansas.

## What We Do

The mission of the PMC is to collect, evaluate, select, release, and develop technology for plant materials. The plant materials program emphasizes the use of native plants as a way to address conservation issues and restore native ecosystems. The plant materials program follows a process for the release of materials with federal and state agencies and other conservation partners. This process includes:

- Assemble plants and seed collections
- Evaluate initial performance
- Determine method of seed or plant increase and potential for release
- Document seed and plant production procedures
- Evaluate cultural and management techniques
- Test plants under actual use conditions
- Release of new plants or technology to solve conservation problems
- Maintain breeder seed of plant releases for use by commercial seed growers



*finding solutions since 1965*



## Program Emphasis

The PMC strives to develop and transfer the most current and effective plant science technology to meet customer and resource needs in the service area. Emphasis on plant development and research is placed upon:

- Critical Area Erosion Control
- Cropland Erosion Control
- Range and Pasture Improvement
- Wildlife and Pollinator Habitat Improvement
- Plant Attributes for Conservation Planning Tools

## Training and Outreach

The staff at the PMC also conducts training sessions and workshops for NRCS field office personnel and the public on the use of plants and technology for resource conservation. PMC staff cooperates with other federal and state agencies to conduct plant workshops for the public.

## Additional Resources

For additional information about plants and the plant materials program visit the following websites:

- [www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/pmc/index.html](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/pmc/index.html)
- [www.plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov/](http://www.plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov/)
- [www.plants.usda.gov](http://www.plants.usda.gov)