



# NRCS Species for Plant Collections

*Panicum hallii* Vasey

**Scientific Name:** *Panicum hallii* Vasey

**Common Name:** Halls Panicum



1 Sam C. Strickland Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

## **Morphological Characteristics:**

- native, perennial bunchgrass
- warm season
- leaves are flat and glabrous
- curling basal leaves at maturity or when dried
- panicle is outline pyramidal with few branches
- spikelets are located on short pedicels
- plant height is 6-28 inches with nodes that can be glabrous to pubescent
- starts growth in early spring
- flowers from April to November
- reproduces from seeds and tillers
- occurs on dry, arid soils
- adapted to sand or clay soils, particularly calcareous soils

## **Conservation Use:**

Why collect this plant? Texas Plant Materials Centers have identified this plant as having potential benefits to the following conservation practice standards: 327 Conservation Cover; 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management; 342 Critical Area Plantings; 562 Recreation Area Improvement; 550 Range Planting; 512 Pasture and Hay Planting; 332 Contour Buffer Strips; 393 Filter Strips; and 528 Prescribed Grazing. The planting of Halls panicum can provide fair forage value for livestock and wildlife. Your assistance in collecting this plant helps support this effort and the NRCS conservation practice standards which are employed daily to conserve the natural resources of Texas.

## **Centers Requesting Seed:**

USDA-NRCS/James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center – Knox City, Texas

## **How to Collect Seed:**

1. Identify native plant stands in your area. You can go to the following websites for helpful photos <http://plants.usda.gov> or <http://www.noble.org/imagegallery/index.html> or [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org)
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 and not in a plastic bag, because moisture will collect and mold seeds. Collect seed from a minimum of 30 to 50 plants.
4. Label each collection as it is made so collections do not get mixed up. Information required includes: Collector's name, number of plants collected, location (parish, city, highway, and GPS coordinates), site description (soil type, slope, and plants growing in association).
5. Complete NRCS-ECS-580, Plant Collection Information Form, and mail with collected seeds to the NRCS Plant Materials Center below.

**USDA-NRCS James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center**  
**3950 FM 1292 Suite 100**  
**Knox City, TX 79529-2514**

## **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 between sites.

## **Other Photos:**



**2 Sam C. Strickland Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center**



**3 Patrick J. Alexander USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database**

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