



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

Kerr Germplasm Wright Pavonia

Pavonia lasiopetala (Scheele)

A Conservation Plant Release by USDA NRCS James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center, Knox City, TX



USDA-NRCS James E. "Bud" Smith PMC

Kerr Germplasm Wright pavonia, *Pavonia lasiopetala* (Scheele), was released from the James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center in Knox City, Texas in 2000.

Description

Wright pavonia is a native, upright, perennial, warm-season forb that can grow between 3 to 4 feet tall. It has a woody base and is herbaceous above with light green, heart-shaped leaves. The solitary, five-petal pink or rose-red flowers bloom from April through November. There are approximately 35,866 seed per pound of Wright pavonia.

Source

Kerr Germplasm Wright pavonia was collected from native plants located at the Texas Parks and Wildlife-Kerr Wildlife Management Area near Hunt, Texas.

Conservation Uses

Kerr Germplasm may be used in pure stands or as a component in seed mixtures for range seeding. Wright pavonia reseeds itself readily on rangeland where the plants are protected from overgrazing. It may be used for beautification and low input native landscapes. Wright pavonia is a popular garden accent plant throughout Texas due to a long bloom period and ability to grow in full to half sun. Its forage is highly palatable to all livestock, white-tailed deer and many exotic herbivores. Wildlife will utilize the plants and seed for food. Plants also provide cover for ground nesting birds and small mammals. The showy flowers attract many different species of bees, butterflies, and other pollinators.

Area of Adaptation and Use

Wright pavonia grows naturally on dry, rocky, and usually calcareous soils. It occurs from western Texas through the Texas Hill Country and up into the southern Rolling Plains and down into the Rio Grande Plains. It performs best on well drained sandy to medium textured soils.

Establishment and Management for Conservation Plantings

The full seedling rate for Kerr Germplasm Wright pavonia is 7.0 pound of pure live seed per acre. When included as a component of a seed mixture, the seeding rate should be adjusted to the desired percent of the mix. Seed should be placed ¼ to ½ inch deep.

Seedbed preparation should begin the year prior to spring planting to reduce weed problems during the first year of establishment. Work the site as necessary during the summer or early fall prior to establishment to create a firm weed-free seedbed. Work should be completed in the fall to allow time for the soil to settle and accumulate moisture. Minimum and no-till operations should use herbicide applications to control weeds.

Plantings should be well established before livestock grazing is permitted. Twelve months of grazing deferment should give plants enough time to become established. Contact your local USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service field office for assistance in planning and applying prescribed grazing plans.

Soil tests should be conducted to determine the amount of fertilizer applied to sustain a medium level. Nitrogen should not be used during the establishment year because it will encourage weed growth. Weeds may be controlled by mowing or with herbicides. Consult your local extension weed specialist for recommendations on herbicides for Wright pavonia.

Seed and Plant Production

Wright pavonia is harvested with a seed stripper.

Availability

For conservation use: Commercial seed is available from several commercial seed companies.

For seed or plant increase: Generation zero (G0) seed (equivalent to Breeder seed) will be maintained by the USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center in Knox City, Texas and is available through the Texas Foundation Seed Service in Vernon, Texas, phone number (940) 552-6226.



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Citation

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For additional information about this and other plants, please contact your local USDA Service Center, NRCS field office, or Conservation District <<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>>, and visit the PLANTS Web site <<http://plants.usda.gov/>> or the Plant Materials Program Web site <<http://www.plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov/>>



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