James E. “Bud” Smith
Plant Materials
Long Range Plan
2013-2018

This Plant Materials Long Range Plan identifies NRCS customer, resource and program needs in the state of Texas and Oklahoma that may be addressed by the Plant Materials Center serving the states.

The mission of the Plant Materials Program is to develop and transfer effective state-of-the-art plant science technology to meet customer and resource needs. The purpose of the Plant Materials Program is to carry out specialized activities in resource conservation, as part of the overall program of the Natural Resources Conservation Service. It is the responsibility of the Plant Materials Center to: 1) assemble, test, and release plant materials for conservation use, 2) determine techniques for the successful use and management of conservation species, 3) facilitate the commercial increase of conservation species, 4) provide for the development and transfer of state of the art applied science technology.

The PMC Long Range Plan is used to identify, guide, and direct PMC operation toward solving high-priority resource problems identified in the State(s) Plant Materials LRP. The JEBS PMC is directed by needs identified in the Long Range Plans of Texas and Oklahoma, and is consistent with goals and objectives identified in the NRCS Strategic Plan.

This plan will serve as a guide for directing plant materials activities in the states and outlines specific action items to be incorporated into the PMC business plan.

Table 1. Action Items of the Plant Materials Program and the responsible contacts.

Action Items	Contact	Priority	Progress Notes
Technology Development			
1. *Evaluate plant adaptability and performance of multiple cover crop species for soil health improvement in Texas. Develop list of recommended species per service area for use as cool and warm season cover crops.*	*Ziehr* *Durham* *OK PMS*	High	
2. *Develop seeding rates and seed mix for wildlife enhancement herbaceous plantings between windbreak rows to benefit pollinators and other wildlife for Texas and Oklahoma.*	*Ziehr* *TX State Forester* *Castro* *OK PMS*	Medium	

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3. Develop planting recommendations for windbreak diversity utilizing various shrubs, evergreen and deciduous trees.	*Ziehr* *TX State Forester*	Medium	
4. Evaluate windbreak establishment techniques without using irrigation and weed barrier. Texas and Oklahoma.	*TX State Forester* *Ziehr* *OK PMS*	Low	
5. Evaluate forage quantity and quality of defined grasses for utilization of standing hay crops. Texas and Oklahoma.	*TX Range Specialist* *Goodwin* *Ziehr*	High	
6. Establish a long term windbreak study evaluating yearly effect on crop production. Texas and Oklahoma.	*Ziehr* *TX State* *Forester* *Durham* *Homeyer* *OK PMS*	High	
7. Evaluate forb plant establishment success when seeding in the fall versus winter or spring.	*Ziehr*	High	
8. Evaluate forb interseeding techniques.	*Ziehr* *TX Range Specialist*	Medium	
9. Develop pant architectural data.	*Douglas*	Low	

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Plant Development			
1. Native legumes for wildlife plantings	*Ziehr* *Castro*	Low	
2. Native cool season plants for grazing and rangeland diversity.	*Ziehr* *TX Range Specialist*	Low	
3. Native shrubs for rangeland enhancement and application in Lesser Prairie Chicken habitat.	*Ziehr* *Castro* *TX Range Specialist*	Low	
Technology Transfer			
1. Planting Guide for existing windbreak diversity enhancement.	*TX State Forester* *Ziehr*	Medium	
2. Technical note summarizing performance of commercially available pollinator seedmixes.	*Ziehr*	Low	
3. Provide NRCS offices and partners with PMC materials that promote the Plant Materials Program.	*Ziehr*	High	
Training			
1. Cover crop establishment and benefits	*Ziehr* *Durham* *OK PMS*	High	
2. PMC training for new employees on how PMC supports field offices. Plant ID, Etc.	*Ziehr OK PMS*	High	

Action Items	Contact	Priority	Progress Notes
Demonstration			
1. Demonstration of riparian planting techniques	*Ziehr* *TX State Forester*	Low	
2. Demonstration of plant adaptions of conservation plant releases.	*Ziehr*	Low	
3. Demonstration of cover crop plantings	*Ziehr* *Durham*	High	