

Aberdeen, Idaho Plant Materials Center Cooperates with Great Basin Native Plant Selection and Increase Project

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The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Aberdeen, Idaho Plant Materials Center (PMC) is a cooperator with the Great Basin Native Plant Selection and Increase Project. The PMC has cooperated with the Project in the release and production of Certified seed that is allocated to commercial seed growers through the University of Idaho Foundation Seed Program and Utah Crop Improvement Association. The plants released include Maple Grove Selected Class Germplasm Lewis flax (*Linum lewisii*), Anatone Selected Class Germplasm bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*), Snake River Plains Selected Class Germplasm fourwing saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*) and Northern Cold Desert Selected Class Germplasm winterfat (*Krascheninnikovia lanata*). The PMC is also evaluating procedures for propagating rooted cuttings of fourwing saltbush to improve seed production. The PMC established a display nursery near Boise, Idaho in the fall of 2004 that features native plants used for rehabilitation and restoration projects within the Great Basin. The PMC is beginning propagation of native forb accessions (*Lomatium*, *Eriogonum*, and *Penstemon* species) that were collected by the Project for further field evaluations and initial seed increase.

Presented at Society for Range Management, 58th Annual Meeting and Trade Show, February 10, 2005. Selecting and Increasing Native Plant Materials for the Great Basin Symposium.