

Aberdeen Plant Materials Center



“The plant materials program and its cooperators have contributed the bulk of the material and technology now used in ecosystem restoration and is our foundation for meeting conservation challenges of the future.”

D. T. Booth and T. A. Jones,
Plants for Ecological Restoration: a foundation and philosophy for the future. In: *Native Plants Journal*, Spring 2001

Economic Impact

Seed Production – What is it Worth?

The sale of seed represents a significant economic value to growers, distributors, and retailers. The following table summarizes the annual 2005 average value to local communities from 408 plant releases by NRCS nationwide and 44 plant releases from the USDA NRCS Plant Materials Center at Aberdeen, Idaho.

Type	Releases from All Plant Materials Centers		Releases from Aberdeen Plant Materials Center	
	Amount (lbs)	Annual Value	Amount (lbs)	Annual Value
Certified Seed	10,475,800	\$21,680,800	1,824,600	\$4,105,300
Common Seed	7,452,700	\$15,650,700	1,608,000	\$3,617,900
Total Annual Value		\$37,331,500		\$7,723,200

Conservation Benefits – What is the Value?

Plant Materials Program releases are used to address a wide variety of conservation needs throughout the U. S. and beyond our borders. Based on the annual commercial production of seed during the 2005, it is estimated that Plant Materials Program releases had the following impact:

- ❑ enough seed to plant 2.25 million acres (Aberdeen 0.45 million acres)
- ❑ enough trees and shrubs to plant a row 2,000 miles long
- ❑ in all, Plant Materials Program releases would cover an area three times the size of Delaware

Technology Development – Who Uses It?

Private landowners, NRCS field offices, federal and state land management agencies and many conservation partners benefit from the more than 628 non-genetically manipulated plant releases available and the associated plant science technology. Nearly 75 percent of the plants recommended for conservation applications in the USDA NRCS Field Office Technical Guide are releases from the USDA NRCS Plant Materials Program.



The Plant Materials Program transfers seed production technology to growers

For more information: <http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov>



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