

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
ELSBERRY, MISSOURI

And

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY- AUDUBON MISSOURI
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF NORTHERN MISSOURI GERMPLASM
PRAIRIE COREOPSIS
SOURCE IDENTIFIED CLASS OF NATURAL GERMPLASM**

The Natural Resources conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Department of Agriculture and the National Audubon Society-Audubon Missouri (NAS), and the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) announce the release of a source identified ecotype of prairie coreopsis (*Coreopsis palmata* Nutt.) for Northern Missouri counties.

As a source identified release, this plant will be referred to as Northern Missouri Germplasm prairie coreopsis to document its original collections. Northern Missouri Germplasm prairie coreopsis released as a source identified type of certified seed (natural track). It has been assigned the NRCS accession number 9079028.

This alternative release procedure is justified because there are no existing commercial sources of prairie coreopsis collected from numerous native sites throughout this specific region. Propagation material of specific ecotypes is needed for roadside plantings and prairie restoration and enhancement. The potential for immediate use is high.

Collection Site Information: Collections were taken from native prairie remnants within the counties in Missouri north of the Missouri River.

Ecotype Description:

Prairie coreopsis is a moderately long-lived perennial, which grows 1 to 3 feet tall. Each plant has several bushy stems arising as a clump from several short rhizomes. Stems are copiously branched and woody textured. Leaves are opposite, sessile, deeply three-lobed, linear, oblong like the footprints of a shore-bird and alternately arranged and crowded on the stem. The flowers which bloom from late May to August are yellow. Pistillate ray flowers are 6 to 10 in number and 1 to 2 inches across and generally tipped with three teeth. The rays (like petals) surround a 0.3-0.4 inch yellow staminate flower disk. Fruits are brown, oblong and flat, about 0.1 inch broad.

Environmental Impact Assessment: Northern Missouri Germplasm prairie coreopsis is a collection of naturally occurring germplasm and has been unaltered. Coreopsis species are one of the more aggressive native prairie species and can potentially overwhelm a prairie mix. Northern Missouri Germplasm prairie coreopsis did not meet the assessment of a plant, which could become invasive based on guidelines adopted by the NRCS Plant Materials Program.

Anticipated Conservation Use: The potential uses of Northern Missouri Germplasm prairie coreopsis include roadside plantings, prairie creations and restorations, landscaping, and for increasing plant diversity in prairie communities.

Potential Area of Adaptation: Prairie coreopsis occurs throughout the tallgrass prairie biome, often on well-drained upland sites, but will tolerate all but saturated soils. Flowering begins in May and may continue through August.

Availability of Plant Materials: G1 material is being produced in limited supply by the Elsberry Plant Materials Center. For information contact USDA, NRCS, Plant Materials Center, 2803 N. Hwy 79, Elsberry, Missouri 63343 (573 898-2012).

References:

Flora of Missouri; pp. 1582-1584; Steyemark, J. A; Iowa State University Press, Ames, IA 1968.

Wildflowers of the Tall Grass Prairie, The Upper Midwest; p. 125; Runkel, Sylvan T, and Roosa, Dean M.; Iowa State University Press, Ames, IA 1989.

The Tallgrass Restoration Handbook; For Prairies, Savannas, and Woodlands; p. 138, Packard, Steven and Mutel, Cornelia F.; Island Press, Washington, D. C. 1997.

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Signatures for release of:

Northern Missouri Germplasm prairie coreopsis (*Coreopsis palmata* Nutt.)

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