

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

And

THE IOWA ECOTYPE PROJECT AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA
CEDAR FALLS, IOWA

NATIVE ROADSIDE VEGETATION CENTER
CEDAR FALLS, IOWA

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AMES, IOWA

IOWA CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
AMES, IOWA

**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF NORTHERN IOWA GERMPLASM
PALE PURPLE CONEFLOWER
SOURCE IDENTIFIED CLASS OF NATURAL GERMPLASM**

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Iowa Ecotype Project at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI), the Native Roadside Vegetation Center, (NRVC), the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT), and the Iowa Crop Improvement Association (ICIA) announce the release of a source identified ecotype of pale purple coneflower (*Echinacea pallida* Nutt.) for Northern Iowa counties.

As a source identified release, this plant will be referred to as Northern Iowa Germplasm pale purple coneflower to document its original collections. Northern Iowa Germplasm pale purple coneflower released as a source identified type of certified seed (natural track). It has been assigned the NRCS accession number 9068611.

This alternative release procedure is justified because there are no existing commercial sources of pale purple coneflower 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 three tiers of counties located in northern Iowa.

Ecotype Description: Pale purple coneflower is a perennial native prairie wildflower which grows 2 to 3 feet tall. The leaves are mostly basal; elongate-oval, blades 7 by $\frac{3}{4}$ inches with leaf stalks from 6 inches for basal leaves to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch for stem leaves; parallel veins in the blades; bulb-based hairs above and below. There is a single head at the top of a stalk having stiff hairs and a few small leaves. The heads are pale to deep rose-purple, drooping rays, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, dark purple disk flowers on a conical base, the disk about 1 inch tall and 1 inch in diameter; flowering from May to July; rays often last until August. The fruits (seeds) are $\frac{1}{8}$ inch long, squarish and

pointed at one end; no plume; fruiting begins in late June; often fruits persist in the head through the winter.

Environmental Impact Assessment: Northern Iowa Germplasm pale purple coneflower is a collection of naturally occurring germplasm and has been unaltered. Northern Iowa Germplasm pale purple coneflower 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 Iowa Germplasm pale purple coneflower include roadside and wildlife plantings, prairie creations and restorations, landscaping, and for increasing plant diversity in prairie communities.

Potential Area of Adaptation: Pale purple coneflower occurs throughout the tallgrass prairie biome, and common on limestone glades, barrens, bald knobs, fields, along railroads, and prairies, rarely in dry rocky woods. The range is from Illinois and Michigan to Minnesota and Nebraska, south to Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas.

Availability of Plant Materials: G1 material is being produced in limited supply by the Elsberry Plant Materials Center and the University of Northern Iowa, Native Roadside Vegetation Center. For information contact USDA, NRCS, Plant Materials Center, 2803 N. Hwy 79, Elsberry, Missouri 63343 (573 898-2012) or the University of Northern Iowa, Native Roadside Vegetation Center, 113 CEEE, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0293 (319 273-3005).

References:

Flora of Missouri; pp. 1560-1562; Steyemark, J. A.; Iowa State University Press, Ames, IA 1968.

An Illustrated Guide to Iowa Prairie Plants; p. 43, Christiansen, P. and Muller, M.; University of Iowa Press, Iowa City, IA 1999.

Prepared by:

S.B. Bruckerhoff, USDA NRCS Plant Materials Center, 2903 North Hwy 79, Elsberry, Missouri, 63343.

Signatures for release of:

Northern Iowa Germplasm pale purple coneflower (*Echinacia pallida Nutt.*)

Roger A. Hansen
State Conservationist
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Columbia, Missouri

Date

Robert Koob
President
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, Iowa

Date

Leroy Brown
State Conservationist
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Des Moines, Iowa

Date

Daryl D. Smith
Director, NRVE
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, Iowa

Date

Steve Holland
Iowa Department of Transportation
Ames, Iowa

Date

Robert E. Lawson
Secretary/Treasurer
Iowa Crop Improvement Association
Ames, Iowa

Date

Richard S. White PM - NPL
For Director, Ecological Sciences Division
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Washington, D.C.

Date