## **TECHNICAL NOTES**

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

TN-PLANT MATERIALS-71

February 2005

## **Percent Cover and Height Data for RUSLE2**

Thirty six cover crop plots were planted on November 21, 2002 at the Lockeford Plant Materials Center for RUSLE2 data acquisition. RUSLE2 is the latest Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation. The plots were evaluated every two weeks for percent cover and height.

The plots are non-replicated and 20 feet by 20 feet in size. The plots were not fertilized or irrigated. The plots were broadcast seeded and raked. The seeding rate was 50 PLS (pure live seed) per square foot. The vetches and clovers were mowed during the summer of 2003 for weed control. The grass plots had herbicide applied to control broad leaf weeds. The grass plots are currently being maintained for educational uses. Lockeford has an annual rainfall of 16 inches and is in MLRA (Major Land Resource Area) 17. The soil is a deep fine sandy loam.

Field office staff can use the information in this technical note to inform land owners about different species growth parameters and assist in developing seed mixes.

Rainfall rates: Nov. 2002 2.26" Dec. 2002 5.30" Jan. 2003 1.02" Feb. 2003 3.17" Mar. 2003 1.64" Apr. 2003 1.64" Apr. 2003 58" 2002/2003 total 13.97" Nov 2003 2.30" Dec. 2003 4.26"

Prepared by David A. Dyer, Plant Materials Center Manager and Agronomist, Lockeford, CA. . Reviewed by Bob Fry, State Agronomist, Hanford, CA

## COVER CROP PLOTS FOR BIWEEKLY PERCENT COVER AND CANOPY FALL HEIGHT DATA COLLECTION FOR RUSLE2

| unpaved farm road |   |    |   |    |   |    |   |
|-------------------|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|
| 1                 | White clover<br>Trifolium repens                                | 29 | 'Cucamonga'<br>California<br>brome                          | 20 | <b>'Jose'</b><br><b>Tall wheatgrass</b><br>Elytrigia elongata | 6  | <b>'Fawn'</b><br>Desert fescue<br>Vulpia microstachys       |
| 2                 | Crimson clover<br>Trifolium incarnatum                          | 30 | California<br>brome   | 21 | <b>'Panoche'</b><br><b>Red brome</b><br>Bromus rubens         | 7  | California<br>melicgrass                                    |
| 3                 | <b>Alfalfa</b><br>Medicago sativa                               | 31 | <b>'Mariposa'</b><br>Blue wildrye<br>Elymus glaucus         | 22 | <b>'Stocker'</b><br><b>Rescuegrass</b><br>Bromus catharticus  | 8  | <b>'Teton'</b><br><b>Tall fescue</b><br>Festuca arundinacea |
| 4                 | 'Nungarin'<br>Burrowing<br>clover                               | 32 | <b>'Zorro'</b><br>Annual fescue<br>Volupia myuros           | 23 | <b>Idaho fescue</b><br>Festuca idahoensis                     | 11 | <b>'Covar'</b><br>Sheep fescue<br>Festuca ovina             |
| 5                 | <b>'Serena'</b><br><b>Burclover</b><br>Medicago polymorpha      | 33 | <b>'Blando'</b><br>Soft brome<br>Bromus hordeaceus          | 24 | <b>'Wimmera 62'</b><br>Ryegrass<br>Lolium rigidum             | 14 | 'Ephraim'<br>Crested<br>wheatgrass                          |
| 9                 | <b>'Lana'</b><br><b>Winter vetch</b><br>Vicia villosa ssp villo | 34 | <b>'Zorro'</b><br>Annual fescue<br><sup>Vulpia</sup> Myuros | 25 | <b>'Molate'</b><br>Red fescue<br>Festuca rubra                | 16 | <b>'Deborah'</b><br>California brome<br>Bromus carinatus    |
| 10                | <b>'Jemalong'</b><br>Barrel clover<br>Medicago truncatula       | 35 | <b>Big bluegrass</b><br>Poa secunda                         | 26 | Meadow barley<br>Hordeum brachyantherum                       | 17 | <b>Purple stipa</b><br>Nassella pulchra                     |
| 12                | 'Palestine'<br>Strawberry<br>clover                             | 36 | <b>Barley</b><br>Hordeum vulgare                            | 27 | <b>'Berber'</b><br>Orchardgrass<br>Dactylis glomerata         | 18 | <b>Nodding stipa</b><br>Nassella cernua                     |
| 13                | 'Meechee'<br>Arrowleaf clover<br>Trifolium vesiculosum          |    |   |    |   | 19 | <b>Big squirreltail</b><br>Elymus multisetus                |
| 15                | 'Kalo' Garden<br>Birdsfoot trefoil<br>Lotus corniculatus        |    |   |    |   |    |   |
| 28                | <b>'Hykon'</b><br><b>Rose clover</b><br>Trifolium hirtum        |    |   |    |   |    |   |

unpaved farm road

CA-71-2