



This semi-annual newsletter is published by the USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center, 14119 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34601-4525, Tel: 352-796-9600, FAX: 352-799-7305.



On the Road to Release for 2005

This is one of our eye catching plants. It is one of our ornamental types of *Muhlenbergia Capillaris*. No you don't need to clean your glasses. Just look again yes its white. Beautiful isn't it?



2004 Plant Materials Available

Seed and/or plants of the following species are available to commercial growers:

- ◆ 'Floral Passion' (*Liatris elegans*, blazing star)
- ◆ 'Miami', 'Stewart', and 'Wabasso' switchgrass
- ◆ 'Flora Sun' beach sunflower
- ◆ 'Northpa' and 'Southpa' bitter panicum
- ◆ 'Sharp' and 'Flageo' marshhay cordgrass
- ◆ 'Citrus' maidencane
- ◆ 'Floragraze' and 'Arbrook' perennial peanut
- ◆ 'Chapingo' Mexican teosinte (seed)
- ◆ 'Martin' and 'St. Lucie' eastern gamagrass

These plants were selected to meet conservation needs and are recommended by USDA for planting throughout the Florida PMC service area. Growers should contact Plant Materials Center for additional information at (352) 796-9600.

Florida Nursery and Allied Trade Show



Clarence Maura (Plant Materials Manager, pictured on the right), Sam Sanders (Plant Materials Specialist), and Mary Anne Gonter (Biological Science Technician, Plants) attended the FNATS conference in Orlando, FL, September 29 – October 2, 2004. The Florida Plant Materials information booth was set up to provide the public with insight of the functions of the Plant Materials Program. More than 14,000 people attended the Conference. Pauline Deavers (pictured on the left), and Earth Team Volunteer at the Brooksville PMC, assisted in manning.

Comings and Goings Coming....

The Brooksville Plant Materials Center would like to welcome the newest member aboard Triscia Weakley, our new Secretary. She came to us from the Department of Homeland Security's, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

Goings.....

The PMC would like to wish Sam Sanders and Clarence Maura, Jr, best wishes on their retirements. And to Robert Santucci on his promotion to the San Antonio, Field Office. We will miss them. Here is a poem written by Ed Black our Technician.

Clarence:

*He spent 38 years
At the P.M.C.*

*When it comes to punishment
That's gluttony*

*Show him a plant
He'll tell you it's name
He's not showing off
It's, well, it's ingrained*

*Some people cause you trouble
Some cause you some strife
One, would stab you in the heart
If she had had a knife*

*Most times you're way up.
Once, we saw you way down
When you busted a glass cake plate
All over the ground*

*Ah retirement, relaxing he thinks
It will be his great sorrow
When he sees Jane's "To Do" list
For one Mr. Maura*

*No matter how bad it is
He's still a Buccaneer
Now that you've retired
We won't see the tears*

*You can retire at home
Off your porch, you can fish
That's the kind of home
In Sam Sander's wish*

*Your area floods
It's hard to get about
When the pigs swim by
All you see is their snout.*

*What to do in retirement?
It's a toss of the dice.
With the flooding your have,
Why, you could grow rice*

*When it comes to retirement
Which way do you go?
All you've known is plants
And how they grow.*

*Well plants aren't the only think
You helped to grow
Think of you kids and grandkids.
Get in the car and go!*

*Clarence, enjoy your retirement
You worked hard for these years
But if you get bored
We Still take volunteers.*

*You've had your pet projects
You've had your pet peeves
This place won't be the same
After you leave.*

Good Luck