

# Northern Arizona Native Plant Materials Program

## 2007 Accomplishments

This project promotes the development of supplies of native seeds of local genotypes and is building a native plant program on the Coconino, Kaibab, and Prescott National Forests with the Northern Arizona Native Seed Alliance (NANSA), a collaborative group of local non-profits, private ranches, agencies such as FS and AZ Game and Fish Department, and private industries in northern Arizona. Currently there are no consistent sources for large quantities of local genotypes of native seed in northern Arizona and project managers have to purchase most native seed out of state. Local private companies have had difficulty harvesting and processing because of a lack of proper equipment. The Arboretum at Flagstaff (The Arboretum), Hopi, Museum of Northern Arizona (MNA), and Northern Arizona University (NAU) greenhouses are available for this project. Prices for local native seeds should decline as local growers in the NANSA gain experience and knowledge.

### Accomplishments to date:

- Agreements were signed between the USFS and the Museum of Northern Arizona and The Arboretum of Flagstaff.
- The Forest Service purchased a 6 foot Woodward Flail-vac seed stripper, a clipper office tester seed processor, storage cabinets and miscellaneous supplies.
- A program coordinator has been hired by MNA and is working with several cooperating agencies to coordinate large scale collecting trips and secure sites for increaser plots.
- A horticulturalist has been hired by The Arboretum.
- Cooperators/partners have collected approximately 40 species from a multi-agency developed list based upon initial criteria of: species historically used for restoration, species with long shelf-life, and species with high wildlife palatability. Squirreltail (*Elymus elymoides*), needle-and-thread (*Stipa comata*), and cliffrose (*Purshia stansburiana*) were among those selected.
- Volunteers have contributed over 50 hours of labor performing such tasks as seed collection, and fencing sites for propagation beds.
- Logs are being supplied by the USFS for the construction of 6 seedbed/demonstration gardens. The Arboretum has constructed 3 seedbeds within their fenced grounds.
- NANSA is meeting monthly in Flagstaff, and communicating actively with and attending meetings with the Uncompahgre Plateau Project to discuss the formation of the Colorado Plateau Native Plant Initiative (CPNPI).



Museum of Northern Arizona volunteer collecting native seed.

*Year Awarded: 2007*

*Project completion: 2009*

*Expenditures:*

- FY07 funding: \$75,000
- Expended: \$75,000

*Partners/Contractors/Coop:*

**Coconino, Kaibab and Prescott National Forests**

**Museum of Northern Arizona**

- \$35,000 (USFS Agreement # 07-CS-11030420-043)

**The Arboretum at Flagstaff**

- \$25,000 (USFS Agreement # 07-CS-11030420-044)

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