

# Local Native Seed Collection and Production – Ottawa National Forest

## 2007 Accomplishments

This project was begun in 2005 with seed collected on the Ottawa National Forest from ten grass and wildflower species. Seeds were subsequently planted in two fields at the J.W. Toumey Forest Service Nursery in Watersmeet, Michigan. The objective is to produce western Upper Peninsula genotypes of native herb species for use in revegetation and restoration projects on the Ottawa NF.

In 2007, some planted species have filled in and are starting to produce seed, including bottlebrush grass, poverty oats and big bluestem. Canada wildrye and bearded shorthusk are not thriving and will be dropped from the increase program. Fowl manna grass is growing quite slowly but may still have potential.

Black-eyed susan and false sunflower are growing well; wild bergamot may need to be replanted due to weeds. The Nursery and Forest are working together to determine which species to focus on for seed increase.

Seed production in 2007 includes approximately 21 pounds of bottlebrush seed and three pounds of poverty oats. Also there are collections of big bluestem, black-eyed susan, and evening primrose seeds that have not yet been cleaned and weighed.

Additional seeding, weeding, and field care are planned for 2008. Delivery of seeds for use on Forest or for additional seed increase areas is scheduled for 2008 and beyond.



*Big bluestem grass  
growing at Toumey  
Nursery*



*Seed drying in trays*



*Cleaned  
seed  
ready for  
storage*

**Year Awarded:** 2005

**Project completion:** 2008

**Report number:** 3 of 4

**Expenditures 2007:**

NFN3: \$0

**Partners/Contractors/Cooperators:**

J.W. Toumey Nursery

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