

Marsh Notes

Finding Vegetative Solutions
for Conservation Problems

USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service - Golden Meadow Plant Materials Center



Caminada Seoats

Uniola paniculata

Caminada seoats are recommended for dune enhancement and sand stabilization on low profile sand dunes on coastal beaches and barrier islands. Caminada is a source identified release, collected and increased from a naturally occurring colony of seoats located in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. A small colony of plants was found growing on a low-profile beach dune in 1995. Caminada has persisted, and stabilized the beach dune through several catastrophic weather events that have caused considerable erosion, plant loss, and damage to the beach. Foundation stock of Caminada is available to licensed plant producers by contacting Gary Fine at (985) 475-5280

Cold Front Hits PMC

The PMC has recently undergone a major facelift. We have added a 25 by 25 ft walk in cooler with a 25 by 60 ft covered shed. The additional covered area gives us greater flexibility when using our soil mixer and potting machine outside. The walk in cooler has been a long time coming and we have already started to fill it up.

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Released
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The Mission of the NRCS Plant Materials Program:

We develop and transfer plant materials and plant technology for the conservation of natural resources. In working with a broad range of plant species, including grasses, forbs, trees, and shrubs, the program seeks to address priority needs of field offices and land managers in both public and private sectors. Emphasis is focused on using native plants as a healthy way to solve conservation problems and protect ecosystems.



PMC Highlights

January 10, 2003

40 volunteers from the Louisiana School for Agricultural Sciences assisted with a woody planting for restoring neotropical habitat.

January 21, 2003

The Chief's State Conservationist Plant Materials Advisory Committee met at the PMC and toured the center.

February 6, 2003

Five Texans representing NRCS, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Marine Fisheries toured the PMC and off-Center Field Evaluation Planting sites in Lafourche Parish.

Subscribe to Plant Materials eNews

The USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Program eNews, is a new electronic notification list server for plant materials related issues and news. You can expect no more than 1-2 messages per month from this list server. Information may include the eNewsletter "Plant Solutions," notification of new conservation plant releases, publications, and technical information from the Program, and updates on Plant Materials events. Please share this service with others who may be interested.

To subscribe to the Plant Materials eNews go to:

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Plant Materials Specialist Update

After 30 years of service, **Mike Materne** has retired from NRCS. Mike will continue to work closely with the PMC as he starts a new career with the LSU AgCenter. Mike will now serve as liaison between LSU and NRCS and can be reached at 225-389-0335 and mmaterne@agctr.lsu.edu

The PMC would like to welcome **Scott Edwards** our new Plant Materials Specialist. Scott has worked for the last nine years at the Jamie L. Whitten PMC in Coffeerville, MS. Scott has been on board since July and he will work out of the state office in Alexandria. His telephone number is 318-473-7761.

State Plant Materials Technical Committee November 20, 2002

The purpose of the committee is to:

- Serve as focal point for identification and prioritization of key local and state plant issues, concerns, and product needs.
- Develop a state plant materials long-range program, which includes prioritized plant issues, concerns, and needs with proposed action items.
- Ensure that the plant technology developed is disseminated to meet customer needs.

The following needs were identified:

- Develop Louisiana native plant seed industry.
- Coastal wetland plant restoration and technology.
- Evaluate biofuel crops or Louisiana.
- Native grass adaptation trials.
- Plants for urban conservation.
- Ecosystem restoration

Committee Members Present

John Barnett, LSU AgCenter, Alexandria
 Ken Roberts, LSU AgCenter, Baton Rouge
 Mike Materne, LSU AgCenter, Baton Rouge
 Larry Allain, USGS, Lafayette
 Rick Adams, NRCS, Benton
 John Pitre, NRCS, Alexandria
 James Alderson, NRCS, Temple, TX
 Jim Stevens, NRCS, Nacogdoches, TX
 Larry Trahan, NRCS, Lafayette
 Jean Romero, NRCS, New Iberia
 Cindy Steyer, NRCS, Baton Rouge
 Gary Fine, NRCS, Galliano
 Scott Edwards, NRCS, Alexandria

Vegetative Solutions

"The greatest service which can be rendered to any country is to add a useful plant to its culture"

Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826)



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