

Aberdeen Plant Materials Center



Economic Impact

“The plant materials program and its cooperators have contributed the bulk of the material and technology now used in ecosystem restoration and are our foundation for meeting conservation challenges of the future.”

D. T. Booth and T. A. Jones, Plants for Ecological Restoration: a foundation and philosophy for the future. In: *Native Plants Journal*, Spring 2001

Seed and Plant Production – What is it Worth?

The sale of seed and plants represents a significant economic value to growers, distributors, and retailers. The following table summarizes the annual 2002 value to local communities from 254 plant releases nationwide and 17 plant releases from the Aberdeen, Idaho, Plant Materials Center.

Type	Releases from All Plant Materials Centers		Releases from Aberdeen Plant Materials Center	
	Amount (lbs)	Annual Value	Amount (lbs)	Annual Value
Certified Seed	8,672,431	\$38,776,762	2,031,795	\$11,213,477
Common Seed	8,675,177	\$37,562,171	2,348,050	\$12,959,340
All Plants	16,194,338	\$17,081,734	-----	-----
Total Annual Value		\$93,420,667		\$24,172,817

Conservation Benefits – What is the Value?

Plant materials program releases are used to address a wide variety of conservation needs throughout the U. S. and beyond our borders. Based on the annual commercial production of seed and plants during the year 2002, it is estimated that Plant Materials Program releases had the following impact:

- ❑ enough seed to plant 3.4 million acres (Aberdeen 0.87 million acres)
- ❑ enough plants to revegetate 16,000 acres
- ❑ enough trees and shrubs to plant a row 2,000 miles long
- ❑ in all, Plant Materials Program releases would cover an area three times the size of Delaware

Technology Development – Who Uses It?

Private landowners, NRCS field offices, federal and state land management agencies and many conservation partners benefit from the more than 400 non-genetically manipulated plant releases available and the associated plant science technology. Nearly 75 percent of the plant releases listed in the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide are from the USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Program.



The Plant Materials Program transfers seed production technology to growers

For more information: <http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov>



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