Appendix A

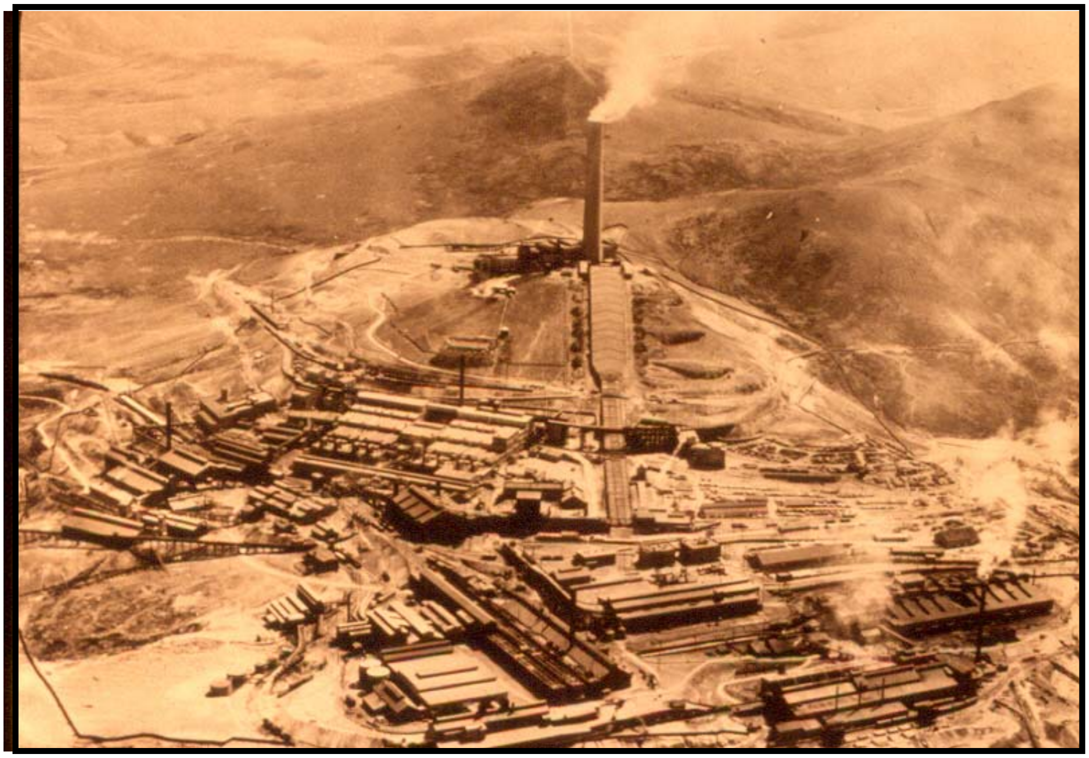
Development of Acid/Heavy Metal Tolerant Releases (DATR) 2005 Activities

A Report to
EPA Mine Waste Technology Program
and
Montana Natural Resource Damages Program

By Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District
in cooperation with the
USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center

Appendix A

I. INTRODUCTION



Appendix A

INTRODUCTION

Montana has a history of mining, starting with the gold rush of the 1860s, followed by mining of silver and, eventually, copper. The derelict lands produced by past mining for heavy metals and the processing of crude mineral ores are both visually unattractive and sources of environmental contamination. In the Clark Fork River Basin alone, there were approximately 20 square miles of tailing ponds, more than 175 square miles of soils and vegetation contaminated by air pollution from smelting operations, at least 30 square miles of unproductive agricultural land, and 150 miles of contaminated stream beds and habitat along these streams, plus millions of gallons of contaminated ground water (Johnson and Schmidt, 1998; Moore and Luoma, 1990). Throughout the rest of the state, the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program identified over 4,500 acres of unvegetated spoils and sites affected by acid mine drainage (Chen-Northern, Inc., 1989).

To successfully reclaim acid/metalliferous-affected sites, it is imperative that a permanent vegetative cover be established, thereby reducing surface wind and water erosion and reducing the amount of leaching of contaminants into subsurface water aquifers. A lack of plant materials able to withstand the severe edaphic conditions of acid- and/or heavy-metal-contaminated soils has created a need for native plant materials that demonstrate inherent tolerances of these conditions and that are adapted to the intermountain valleys and foothills of western Montana. Research has found that populations of certain species growing in soils containing large amounts of heavy metals may be tolerant of the metals, and will grow better on such soils than plant materials originating from uncontaminated soils (Bradshaw, 1952; Bradshaw et al., 1965; Bradshaw, 1977; and Antinovics et al., 1971). All have shown that metal and acid tolerance evolves over time and this tolerance is genetically controlled, being passed on through seed material. This process of natural selection usually occurs over a long period of time (Antonovics, 1966). Antonovics (1968) found that mine spoil plants developed a high level of self-fertility, apparently to prevent the dilution of the tolerance by the flow of nontolerant genes from neighboring populations. Smith and Bradshaw (1972) found that metal-tolerant plant populations tend to translocate fewer amounts of heavy metals into their aerial parts than nontolerant populations. This is a significant factor if a reclaimed site is to be grazed by wildlife and/or livestock. Current reclamation efforts to re-establish plant cover on abandoned and active hardrock mine sites rely primarily on seed of native plants developed for coal mine reclamation and range renovation in dry, high pH soils of eastern Montana, southern Idaho, and eastern Washington and Oregon. The most successful reclamation efforts within the Clark Fork Valley Super-Fund site involve the amendment of soils to neutralize the soil pH and tie up heavy metals. Not all contaminated soils are accessible or traversable with farming equipment, creating a need for seed and transplants tolerant of acid/heavy metal plant materials.

Project History

To address this need for adapted native plants, the Development of Acid/Heavy Metal-Tolerant Plants (DATC) project was initiated in 1995. The DATC project was initially funded by a Montana Department of Natural Resources-Reclamation and Development Grant awarded to the Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District (DLVCD), with research conducted by Matt Marsh. The DLVCD worked in cooperation with the USDA-NRCS Bridger Plant Materials Center. The national network of 26 Plant Materials Centers is the primary source of native plants developed specifically for reclamation and conservation use. The Bridger PMC, in south-central Montana, is a 140-acre research facility dedicated to the selection and release of native plant materials, primarily for use in Montana and Wyoming. The original DNRC grant expired at the end of 1996 and this project did not receive funding until June 1998, at which time carry-over money for the 1997-98 grant period was made available to this project, as well as some financial support from Atlantic Richfield Co. (ARCO). During 1999 and 2000, the project was again funded by a NDRC Reclamation and Development grant. Since 2000, the DATC project has been funded by the EPA Mine Waste Technology Program (through 2005) and the Montana Department of Justice-Natural Resource Damage Program (through 2008). To date, the DATC project has involved the seed collection of 145 native grasses, forbs, shrubs, and trees from within the Upper Clark Fork River Basin and abandoned mine sites throughout western Montana. These collections have been planted at various study sites in comparison with nonlocal native and introduced plant species. The Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) has provided land access for seed collection and sites for experimental plots.

The first Initial Evaluation Plantings (IEPs) (single-row plots) were established in 1995 on the flats east of Anaconda (near junction of Highway 1 and 48), on the Opportunity Ponds (three levels of lime amendment), and adjacent to the Lead Smelter at East Helena. Collectively these three research sites tested 220 accessions of 95 species of native and introduced plants. In the spring of 1999, a Comparative Evaluation Planting (CEP) (single-row plots) was established along Willow Glen Road east of Anaconda evaluating 84 entries, which included multiple accessions of 6 forbs, 13 grasses, and 6 forb/grass mixes. During the fall/winter of 1999, a greenhouse study at the Bridger PMC utilized contaminated soil from the Anaconda Flats area. The results of this replicated, controlled environment study provided enough statistically significant data to move some individual collections toward official release to the commercial seed industry. In 2001, CEPs were established with a four-row cone seeder on Stucky Ridge (upland site) and on the Mill Creek Flats (lowland site) to evaluate eight seed mixtures, four consisting of native, local-origin species and four consisting of nonlocal-origin released cultivars. In October 2002, a shrub/tree CEP (Willow Glenn Road Site) was established to compare native indigenous material with commercially available stock of the same species, utilizing 2-0 transplants. All plantings prior to 2003 were established on unamended sites, receiving deep-plowing treatment only (except Opportunity Pond-Site 2). In the spring of 2003, another replicated trial was established on Stucky Ridge (adjacent to the moto-cross site) on a site that had been deep plowed and amended with lime.

To date, there have been three official germplasm releases by the DATC project: Washoe Selected Class germplasm of basin wildrye (*Leymus cinereus*), Old Works Source Identified Class germplasm of fuzzytongue penstemon (*Penstemon* *eriantherus*), and Prospectors Selected Class germplasm of common snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*). Presently there are 15 collections of 9 species (see Seed Increase section) that have been established in seed increase fields for potential future release. Two commercial growers in Montana are growing Washoe basin wildrye, while a grower in Idaho and one in Washington have recently established seed production fields of Old Works fuzzytongue penstemon.

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II. WOODY EVALUATION

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WOODY COMPARATIVE EVALUATION PLANTING PERFORMANCE REPORT

Introduction

This report summarizes the plant performance of the Woody Comparative Evaluation Planting (CEP) installed in the fall of 2000 at the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site. One of the most impacted areas is the ~18 mi^2 of uplands within the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site. The uplands are commonly derived from the weathering of bedrock and are typically thin, clay-rich alfisols. Due to the susceptibility of these soils to erosion by wind and water, the soil surface in many areas has eroded away and the subsoil, which is now exposed at the surface, continues to erode. Original vegetation in the uplands consisted primarily of shrub lands with coniferous forests above approximately 5,800 feet (Keammerer, 1995). In an effort to stem the transport of contaminants and restore these injured areas, state and federal regulatory agencies have developed several reclamation alternatives, many of which include the planting of shrubs and trees in the uplands.

The low pH soils at the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site are routinely ameliorated by incorporating lime; however, nonuniform lime incorporation, as well as the upward migration of acid-producing compounds, results in pockets of acidity. Additionally, many steeply sloped areas are not accessible to heavy equipment making them difficult to amend. Research has demonstrated that metal-tolerant plants can be used to stabilize and immobilize contaminants in the soil (Smith and Bradshaw, 1972; Bradshaw et al., 1978). Metals are absorbed and accumulated by roots, adsorbed onto roots, or precipitated within the rhizosphere, thereby trapping contaminants in the soil and breaking the soil-plant-animal cycle.

Numerous demonstration projects over the last 50 years at the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site have tested the performance of several woody plant species in diverse edaphic conditions (Dutton, 1992; Eliason, 1959; Gordon, 1984; Reclamation Research Unit and Schafer and Associates, 1993; Reclamation Research Unit, 1997). This study builds on previous research findings by testing accessions (ecotypes) of woody plant species that have shown adaptations to low pH and heavy-metal contaminated soils. The objective of the study is to identify acid/heavy-metal-tolerant native plant ecotypes that provide erosion control and wildlife habitat. The Development of Acid/Heavy-Metal-Tolerant Cultivars Project's goal is to release these superior ecotypes to the commercial market and thereby provide a greater array of plant materials for the reclamation industry.

Study entries include "local" germplasm originated from seed collected on nearby mine-affected soils in Deer Lodge County, Montana, as well as "nonlocal" germplasm originated from seed collected on non-impacted lands in various counties of Montana, Colorado, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. Seedlings of 19 accessions of 7 woody species including *Pinus contorta* lodgepole pine, *Pinus ponderosa* ponderosa pine, *Shepherdia argentea* silver buffaloberry, *Rosa woodsii* Woods' rose, *Symphoricarpos albus* common snowberry, *Symphoricarpos occidentalis* western snowberry, and *Ribes* *cereum* wax currant were transplanted into a common garden in a randomized complete block design.

Study Site

The 0.4-acre study site, located ~4 miles southeast of Anaconda, Montana, has been impacted by emission fallout from the Upper and Lower Works as well as the Washoe smelter. The Upper and Lower Works smelters operated from 1884 to 1902 at which point the Washoe smelter took over smelting operations until 1980. The study site lies ~200 yards east of Mill Creek at an elevation of 5,140 ft in USDA Plant Hardiness Zone 4a. The soils at the site are in the Haploboroll's Family and consist of deep, well-drained soils formed in mixed alluvium composed of granitic, meta-sedimentary, and volcanic rocks. The alluvium is derived from the Mill Creek drainage. Cobbles and stones commonly occur on the soil surface. In 1999, the site was plowed to a depth of 6 inches, rototilled, and packed. Laboratory analysis of four (0- to 6-inch) composite soil samples taken after tilling to 6 inches indicated an average pH of 4.53. Average arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, and zinc concentrations in the four soil samples were 423 mg/kg, 6 mg/kg, 510 mg/kg, 233 mg/kg, and 308 mg/kg, respectively (table 1).

Table 1. Acid extractable heavy-metal levels (EPA method 3050) and pH of 0- to 6-inch composite samples.

Sample No.	pH *s.u.*	As *mg/kg*	Cd *mg/kg*	Cu *mg/kg*	Pb *mg/kg*	Zn *mg/kg*
A.T. 0-6" NE	4.0	610	7	620	320	370
A.T. 0-6" NW	4.9	360	5	340	120	222
A.T. 0-6" SE	4.6	530	5	340	150	200
A.T. 0-6" SW	4.6	190	7	740	340	440
☒	4.53	422.5	6	510	232.5	308
Phytotoxic Criteria†	< 5.0	136-315	5.1-20	236-750	94-250	196-240

† EPA phytotoxicity standards (CDM Federal 1997).

Methods and Materials

The study tested 19 accessions consisting of two or three accessions of each of the seven shrub/tree species (table 2). The 1-0 and 2-0 (6- to 12-inch) seedlings were transplanted in a Randomized Complete Block Design replicated 20 times on October 18, 2000. An individual plant of each accession is represented in each replication. The seedlings are spaced 4.5 feet apart within rows and 9 feet apart between rows. The plot receives no supplemental irrigation. The spring following planting, Vispore™ (3-ft x 3-ft) tree mats were installed on all entries to suppress weeds and retard soil moisture evaporation.

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Table 2. Seed origin and elevation of entries in the Woody Comparative Evaluation Planting.

Family/Species	Seed Origin	Elevation
Caprifoliaceae:		
Symphoricarpos albus *(L.) Blake*	Deer Lodge Co., MT	6000 ft
S. albus (L.) Blake	Ravalli Co., MT	3500
S. occidentalis Hook.	Deer Lodge Co., MT	5559
S. occidentalis Hook	CO Seed Source	unknown
S. occidentalis Hook	Weston Co., WY	5000
Elaeagnaceae:		
Shepherdia argentea (Pursh) Nutt.	Deer Lodge Co., MT	6000
S. argentea (Pursh) Nutt.	UT Seed Source	unknown
S. argentea (Pursh) Nutt.	Sweetwater Co., WY	6000
Grossulariaceae:		
Ribes cereum Dougl.	Deer Lodge Co., MT	5700
R. cereum Dougl.	Chaffee Co., CO	8000
Pinaceae:		
Pinus contorta Dougl. ex Loud.	Deer Lodge Co., MT	6400
P. contorta Dougl. ex Loud.	Albany Co., WY	9500
P. contorta *Dougl. ex Loud*.	Custer Co., ID	6300
P. ponderosa P. & C. Lawson	Deer Lodge Co., MT	5850
P. ponderosa P. & C. Lawson	Lawrence Co., SD	5500
P. ponderosa P. & C. Lawson	San Juan Co., CO	8000
Rosaceae:		
Rosa woodsii	Deer Lodge Co., MT	5168
R. woodsii	Ravalli Co., MT	3400
R. woodsii	Pueblo Co., CO	6000

Plant survival, height, and vigor were assessed in 2001 (May 21 and August 14), 2002 (May 20 and August 20), 2003 (May 28 and August 26), 2004 (June 30), and 2005 (August 29). Plant height is measured in centimeters to the top of live foliage. Vigor is measured on a scale of 1 to 9, with 1 representing excellent vigor and 9 representing plant mortality.

Results and Discussion

Survival

Overall survival of the entrees in the Woody CEP after 1 year (2001) was local 91.4% and nonlocal 79.2%) (table 3). The edaphic conditions have taken their toll, as survival has decreased each subsequent year; 2002—local 84.3% and nonlocal 52.5%, 2003—local 73.6% and nonlocal 43.8%, 2004—local 70.7% and nonlocal 40%, 2005 local

61.4% and nonlocal 37.5%. Anaconda's 30-year average annual precipitation is 13.93 inches. The site was quite dry the year of establishment (2000—9.57 inches), but the years following were near or above normal; 2001—13.99", 2002—16.23", 2003—15.42", 2004—13.37", and 2005---15.75". Precipitation in Anaconda, therefore, was probably not a major factor in plant mortality.

In all species except *Symphoricarpos occidentalis,* the "local" source had equal or better survival than the "nonlocal" sources. As shown in table 3, the superior accessions included *Pinus ponderosa* (Deer Lodge County, MT), *P. ponderosa* (Lawrence County, SD), *P. ponderosa* (San Juan County, CO), *Symphoricarpos albus* (Deer Lodge County, MT), and *Shepherdia argentea* (Deer Lodge County, MT). Based on survival and growth, the best overall performing species have been *Pinus ponderosa,* followed by *Symphoricarpos albus, Shepherdia argentea, and Rosa woodsii.* All accessions of *Pinus contorta* have performed poorly.

Growth

The average growth over the first 4-year period for the local source material was 14.99 cm (5.9 inches), while the nonlocal material averaged 10.33 cm (4.07") of growth. In 2005, the local material averaged 13.44 cm of growth, while the nonlocal averaged 8.7 cm. Generally, the local source material outgrew the nonlocal material except for the two snowberry species, *Symphoricarpos alba* and *Symphoricarpos occidentalis,* and the lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta)*. Some of the shrubs exhibited leader mortality or cropping by wildlife, which resulted in negative overall growth. The accessions with the greatest sustained growth were *Symphoricarpos albus* (Ravalli County), *Ribes cereum* (Deer Lodge County), *Shepherdia argentea* (Deer Lodge County), *Rosa woodsii* (Deer Lodge County), and *Symphoricapos occidentalis* (Wyoming source).

Vigor

Live plants were rated on a scale from 1 to 9 (1=highest rating) based on a visual assessment of their vigor or robustness. Dead plants were entered as missing values. The vigor rating for local source material was somewhat better than the nonlocal source material, but not significantly so: 2001—local 3.8 vs. nonlocal 5.4, 2002—local 3.9 vs. nonlocal 4.8 ,2003--local 5.1 vs. non-local 5.9, 2004--local 5.1 vs. non-local 5.9, and 2005--local 5.3 vs. non-local 5.9. No patterns in superior vigor seem to exist by species or origin other than the local material has slightly better vigor rating than the non-local.

The top-ranking accession for vigor was *Ribes cereum* (Deer Lodge County) followed by *Shepherfia argentea* (Deer Lodge County). As in the other categories, the lodgepole pine *Pinus contorta* accessions had the poorest overall performance.

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Table 3. Woody comparative evaluation: 2002-2005

Replication	Vigor 2002	Vigor 2003	Vigor 2004	Vigor 2005	Avg. Ht. 2002 (cm)	Avg. Ht. 2003 (cm)	Avg. Ht. 2004 (cm)	Avg. Ht. 2005 (cm)	% Surv. 2002	% Surv. 2003	% Surv. 2004	% Surv. 2005
PICO 9078320	**5.80**	**5.1**	**6.5**	**7.6**	**10.1**	**10.2**	**11.8**	**14.0**	**85**	**40**	**25**	**25**
PICO m039ID0002	5.0	5.0	7.0	8.0	12.8	16.3	16.0	16.5	30	15	10	**10**
PICO m038WY0002	4.0	4.5	5.5	6.0	14.5	15.7	18.0	20.5	20	15	5	**10**
PIPO 9081318	**2.1**	**3.4**	**5.6**	**5.7**	**24.7**	**27.4**	**25.8**	**31.3**	**100**	**100**	**95**	**95**
PIPO m04CO0002	4.2	4.8	7.3	8.0	14.3	14.7	13.7	14.1	85	85	85	**75**
PIPO m020SD9903	3.2	2.7	4.8	5.3	26.8	32.1	31.5	38.3	100	100	95	**95**
RICE 9081329	**4.8**	**2.8**	**3.9**	**3.3**	**25.5**	**47.2**	**52.0**	**78.7**	**75**	**65**	**70**	**60**
RICE m024CO0003	5.4	5.1	5.9	5.4	12.3	24.0	25.6	46.9	65	50	50	**40**
ROWO 9081638	**4.2**	**4.5**	**4.5**	**4.4**	**26.1**	**35.9**	**39.4**	**57.3**	**75**	**65**	**65**	**55**
ROWO m076CO0003	7.0	7.0	8.0	9.0	9.0	5.0	4.0	0.0	15	5	5	**0**
ROWO m07MT0003	5.0	4.0	6.0	4.0	12.0	28.5	21.7	50.5	20	10	15	**10**
SHAR 9081334	**2.5**	**2.5**	**3.9**	**4.0**	**29.9**	**37.9**	**41.7**	**73.9**	**80**	**80**	**80**	**75**
SHAR m022WY0005	6.6	5.2	6.7	7.3	5.6	7.8	12.7	20.1	60	35	30	**35**
SHAR m015UT9901	5.8	5.0	5.5	6.0	9.2	13.3	15.0	31.5	25	20	10	**10**
SYAL 9078388	**3.6**	**4.0**	**4.5**	**5.7**	**18.7**	**25.1**	**28.5**	**30.5**	**90**	**85**	**95**	**90**
SYAL m045MT003	3.6	3.0	4.2	4.8	18.3	30.3	33.7	40.5	30	30	30	**30**
SYOC 9081639	**4.6**	**5.2**	**6.9**	**6.5**	**18.1**	**16.1**	**18.6**	**26.5**	**85**	**80**	**65**	**30**
SYOC m021WY0004	3.8	2.8	4.6	4.4	24.8	40.6	37.5	55.7	90	75	70	**65**
SYOC m018CO9904	4.0	4.5	4.8	5.4	16.6	22.8	23.7	35.9	90	85	75	**70**

Conclusion

Several dead plants were dug up and it was observed that the roots of these plants had not penetrated the native soil beyond their soil media plug area. It seems probable that plants whose roots were able to tolerate the low pH and metalliferous surroundings beyond their plug area flourished, while those with roots sensitive to the edaphic contaminates declined.

The accessions that have had good survival and are now putting on substantial growth include:

Pinus ponderosa (Deer Lodge County, MT)
Pinus ponderosa (Lawrence County, SD)
Ribes cereum (Deer Lodge County, MT)
Rosa woodsii (Deer Lodge County, MT)
Rosa woodsii (Ravalli County, MT)
Shepherdia argentea (Deer Lodge County, MT)
Symphoricarpos albus (Deer Lodge County, MT)
Symphoricarpos occidentalis (Weston County, WY)

Recommendations

There are obvious limitations and apparent weaknesses in this study. Currently, only one individual plant comprises an experimental unit. This is problematic because high mortality at the plot resulted in replications lacking an experimental unit, thus generating missing values. It is suggested that an experimental unit include five to ten individuals and that the number or replications be decreased. A larger experimental unit would also allow the harvesting of a few individuals for examination of subterranean growth. Secondly, the "local" and "nonlocal" seedlings of each species in this study were assembled from different growers and were not produced using identical cultural techniques. It is important that accessions of each species are produced under the same regimes. Thirdly, the current study lacks a control. A control plot located at a relatively uncontaminated site is needed in order to compare soil effects and the effectiveness of the treatments. It is believed that the installation of Vispore™ tree mats was beneficial.

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III. STUCKY RIDGE MOTO-X SITE

Appendix A

COMPARATIVE EVALUATION OF GRASSES, FORBS, AND SEED MIXTURES FROM "LOCAL" VERSUS "NON-LOCAL" ORIGINS
Moto-X—Stucky Ridge

Introduction

Currently the commercial varieties being utilized at the Anaconda Smelter NPL Site include 'Pryor' slender wheatgrass, 'Sherman' big bluegrass, 'Sodar' streambank wheatgrass, 'Trailhead' basin wildrye, 'Secar' and 'Goldar' bluebunch wheatgrass, 'Rosana' western wheatgrass, 'Critana' thickspike wheatgrass and 'Appar' Lewis flax. Most of these varieties were developed for coal mineland reclamation in the saline, high pH soils found in eastern Montana and Wyoming. This study's objective is to identify and develop metal-tolerant plant varieties that are adapted to the edaphic conditions found at the Anaconda Smelter NPL Site in western Montana and other mine-affected areas with similar climatic and soil characteristics. This investigation is based on the premise that germplasm originating from low pH and metalliferous soils will exhibit significantly better establishment, cover, and biomass production when grown in lime-amended metalliferous soils at the Anaconda Smelter NPL Site.

Methods and Materials

Study Site

The study is located on Stucky Ridge, ~2 mi northeast of Anaconda, Montana, in Deer Lodge County. The legal description and geographic position of the study site are the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 30, Range 11 West, Township 5 North and North 46°09'09"/ West 112°54'30". The study plot occupies 1.5 acres in subpolygon OWSR-013.09, which is part of the Stucky Ridge Remedial Design Unit (RDU) #1 within the Anaconda Regional Water, Waste, and Soils Operable Unit.

RDU #1 encompasses 242 acres of the ~13,000 acres of upland terrestrial vegetation contaminated by emission fallout from the Washoe, as well as the Upper and Lower Works smelters. Concerns identified in the Stucky Ridge RDU include elevated arsenic concentrations in surface soils, barren or sparsely vegetated areas due to low pH and elevated contaminant concentrations, and steep slopes with high erosion potentials (ARCO 2002, May) (table 1). Current and historic use of this area primarily consists of agricultural grazing, recreation, and open space/wildlife habitat.

The plot site is situated on a stream terrace above Lost Creek at an elevation of 5308 feet and covers most of the relatively flat ground on the east end of Stucky Ridge. The vegetation, although sparse, includes scattered groves of quaking aspen, shrublands dominated by Wood's rose, currant species, rubber rabbitbrush, and horsebrush; and grasslands dominated by redtop and basin wildrye. Annual precipitation at the site ranges from 10 to 14 inches with most of the precipitation occurring in the spring. The parent material is alluvium. The soil has a gravelly loam texture and is well drained. The slope at the plot site averages ~5 to 10 percent.

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Table 1. Pre-tillage soils data in the proximity of the plot site (ARCO 2002, May).

Soil Sample Station	Depth	As	Cu	Zn	Sat. Paste pH
	inches	*mg/kg*	*mg/kg*	*mg/kg*	*s.u.*
94S-SR-71	0-2	-----	-----	-----	4.70
94S-SR-71	2-8	-----	-----	-----	4.90
94S-SR-73	0-2	-----	-----	-----	4.30
94S-SR-73	2-8	-----	-----	-----	4.60
99-098A	0-2	495.0	1660.0	419.0	-----
99-098B	2-6	163.0	1320.0	276.0	-----
99-098C	0-6	-----	-----	-----	4.20
99-098D	6-12	-----	-----	-----	7.60
99-098E	12-18	-----	-----	-----	7.80
99-099A	0-2	489.0	1370.0	303.0	-----
99-099B	2-6	95.8	1020.0	245.0	-----
99-099C	0-6	-----	-----	-----	4.00
99-099D	6-12	-----	-----	-----	7.30
99-099E	12-18	-----	-----	-----	7.70
99-123A	0-2	656.0	1530.0	425.0	-----
99-123B	2-6	167.0	1530.0	332.0	-----
99-123C	0-6	-----	-----	-----	4.40
99-123D	6-12	-----	-----	-----	4.80
99-123E	12-18	-----	-----	-----	6.30
99-163A	0-2	537.0	2180.0	493.0	-----
99-163B	2-6	256.0	1430.0	365.0	-----
99-163C	0-6	-----	-----	-----	4.00
99-163D	6-12	-----	-----	-----	6.20
99-163E	12-18	-----	-----	-----	-----

Soil Treatment

The study plot site was ameliorated along with the rest of treatment area (OWSR-013.09) following the remedial actions specified in the Remedial Action Work Plan/Final Design Report (ARCO 2002, May). The remedy identified for this treatment area was soil tilling to 12 inches with the addition of a neutralizing amendment to ameliorate the low pH soil conditions. Remediation of the area was performed by Jordan Contracting, Inc. and their subcontractors starting in the fall of 2002. According to the work report from Jordan Contracting, Inc. (Bahr 2003, February 18) prior to tillage, many of the erosion rills and gullies were graded using a D8 Dozer and a CAT 330 excavator. The entire treatment area was pre-tilled by Western Reclamation, Inc. with a Rhome™ disc to approximately 12 inches in mid-September. Lime kiln dust, procured from Continental Lime, Inc., was then applied at a rate of ~22.0 tons/acre to neutralize the soil. Four additional passes were made with the Rhome™ disc to a depth of 12 inches to incorporate the lime. Lime incorporation was completed on November 14, 2002.

In the spring of 2003, fertilizer (12% N, 16%P_2O_5, 30% K_2O) was applied at a rate of 500 bulk pounds per acre and incorporated to 6 inches using a chisel plow. The tillage area was drill seeded in early May 2003 at a rate of 25 lbs/acre with “Revegetation Mix #1.” Table 2 below lists the soil characteristics of pre-tillage soil data points closest to the study site (northwest portion of treatment area [OWSR-013.09] as stated in the Remedial Action Work Plan/Final Design Report [ARCO 2002, May]).

Table 2. Post-planting grass, forb/subshrub, and seed mixture trial (0- to 6-inch) composite soil sample analysis from the Stucky Ridge Comparative Evaluation Planting.

Sample Id.	Sample Description.	pH	As	Cd	Cu	Pb	Zn
		s.u.	*mg/kg*	*mg/kg*	*mg/kg*	*mg/kg*	*mg/kg*
GR1	Grass Trial, Rep. 1	8.2	120	1	797	35	174
GR2	Grass Trial, Rep. 2	8.1	117	1	906	34	177
GR3	Grass Trial, Rep. 3	7.9	132	1	833	43	195
GR4	Grass Trial, Rep. 4	8.0	212	2	985	61	228
GDR1	Grass Trial, Rep. 1, Duplicate	7.7	121	1	703	39	153
GDR3	Grass Trial, Rep. 3, Alternate	7.7	178	1	845	57	201
FR1	Forb Trial, Rep. 1	8.0	115	1	774	38	185
FR2	Forb Trial, Rep. 2	7.2	127	2	888	45	182
FR3	Forb Trial, Rep. 3	7.7	153	2	1010	45	220
FR4	Forb Trial, Rep. 4	7.6	127	2	1080	40	210
FD1	Forb Trial, Rep. 1, Duplicate	8.0	91	ND†	681	31	170
FD3	Forb Trial, Rep. 3, Duplicate	7.9	106	1	828	33	171
MR1	Seed Mix. Trial, Rep. 1	8.0	39	1	721	6	143
MR2	Seed Mix. Trial, Rep. 2	7.5	367	2	909	97	226
MR3	Seed Mix. Trial, Rep. 3	7.7	39	ND	706	12	161
MR4	Seed Mix. Trial, Rep. 4	7.8	257	2	857	91	209
MDR1	Seed Mix. Trial, Rep. 1, Duplicate	7.4	130	1	925	35	165
MDR3	Seed Mix. Trial, Rep 3, Alternate	8.1	29	ND	525	9	153

† ND: Not detected at the reporting limit.

Post-Treatment Soil Sampling Methods

Soil sampling of the grass, forb/subshrub, and seed mixture trials was completed on June 24, 2003, after planting. The soil samples were analyzed for pH (1:1 saturated paste), and total As, Cd, Cu, Pb, and Zn by Energy Laboratories, Inc. in Billings, Montana. At the grass trial eight randomly selected treatment blocks in each replication were subsampled. The eight (0- to 6-inch, 0- to 15-cm) composite subsamples collected from a replication were combined and mixed to form one representative sample. Duplicate soil samples were taken in replication 1 and alternate soil samples were taken in replication 3. In the forb/subshrub trial, four (0- to 6-inch) subsamples were taken per replication to form one representative sample. Duplicate subsamples were taken in replications 1 and 3. In the mixture trial, two (0- to 6-inch) subsamples were taken per replication to form one representative sample. Duplicate subsamples were taken in replication 1 and alternate subsamples were taken in replication 3.

The arsenic and metal concentrations of the post-planting soil samples were generally moderate with the exception of copper. Copper concentrations within the three trials averaged 832 mg/kg and ranged from 525 mg/kg to 1080 mg/kg. The average copper concentrations in the grass, forb/subshrub, and seed mixture trials were 845 mg/kg, 877 mg/kg, and 774 mg/kg, respectively. The pH of post-planting soil samples were all above neutral, averaging 7.8 and ranging from 7.2 to 8.2.

Planting Design

The study is arranged as three separate trials (grass, forb/subshrub, and seed mixture) each in a Randomized Complete Block Design replicated four times. The three trials are situated adjacent to each other as shown in figure 1. The grass, forb/subshrub, and seed mixture trials are 0.96 acre, 0.44 acre, and 0.14 acre, respectively, with a total plot size of 1.52 acres. Between each replication, as well as between trials, an 8-foot strip of *Elymus trachycaulus* 'Pryor' was planted to minimize edge effect. The seed bed was prepared by DATC Project personnel on April 22, 2003, using a 5-foot box scraper to level the soil. Rocks greater than 6 inches in diameter within the plot boundary were hand-picked. After rock removal, another pass was made with the box scraper and spike-tooth harrow to till out tractor tire compressions.

On May 13, 2003, the seed treatments were planted using a 4-row Kincaid™ cone drill with 1-ft row spacing and a 0.5-inch planting depth. The seeding rate for the grass and forb/subshrub trials was 50 Pure Live Seeds (PLS) per linear foot of row. The seeding rate for the seed mixture trial was based on a total seeding rate of 50 PLS per square foot. Each component of the mix was calculated as a percentage of the per-square-foot rate.

The seed mixtures were formulated for two distinct applications. An "Upland" blend was designed for sloping areas with generally low water infiltration and to provide wildlife habitat. The "Waste Management Area" (WMA) blend was designed to provide a vegetative cover for areas in which remedial options appear to be limited and their use for containment of large volumes of waste appears logical (EPA, 1995a). The seed mixtures referred to as "Developed" are the seed formulations, utilizing commercially available cultivars, currently specified for use in the Remedial Action Work Plan/Final Design Report 2002. The seed mixture previously referred to as Revegetation Mix #1, planted in the surrounding treatment area, is synonymous with the "Upland Developed" seed mixture. The seed mixtures referred to as "Experimental" are local ecotypes of the same species from mine-impacted lands.

Each treatment block is 8 feet (8 rows) by 25 feet. In the grass and forb/subshrub trials, each treatment block was planted with a single accession. Two exceptions exist due to seed quantity restraints. In all replications of the grass trial, *Pascopyrum smithii* 9081968 was drilled in only 6 rows with *Elymus trachycaulus* 'Pryor' drilled into the remaining 2 rows. In all replications of the forb/subshrub trial, *Eriogonum ovalifolium*

9082098 was drilled into only 4 rows with *Elymus trachycaulus* 'Pryor' drilled into the remaining 4 rows.

As mentioned above, *Elymus trachycaulus* 'Pryor' was drilled in the border strips and also broadcast in the unplanted area south of the forb/subshrub trial. Wooden stakes, spray painted orange and marked with an identification number, were installed in the northeast corner of each treatment block. Lastly, a single-strand, smooth wire fence was installed around the perimeter of the plot to designate plot boundaries and restrict vehicular trespassing. In mid-July and again in mid-September, volunteer Canadian thistle was spot sprayed initially with a 3% solution of 2-4-D Amine and subsequently with a 3% solution of Stinger™ (Clopyralid) applied with a backpack sprayer.

Seeded Species

The species entries consist of 36 grass accessions representing 9 grass genera, 14 forb accessions representing 5 forb genera, 2 subshrub accessions representing 1 subshrub species, and 4 seed mixtures representing 2 seed mixture formulations (tables 3-8). The 15 total genera tested were selected for inclusion in the study based on results from previous Development of Acid/Heavy Metal-Tolerant Cultivars (DATC) Project studies such as the Initial Evaluation Planting study (Marty 2000, July) and the Greenhouse Comparative Evaluation Planting study (Marty 2001, October).

Each genus tested includes at least one accession originating from metalliferous soil sites in the proximity of the Anaconda Smelter NPL Site, except in one case. Neither of the two *Krascheninnikovia lanata* accessions originated from metalliferous soils. In this report, accessions that originated from metalliferous soils are referred to as "local," whereas accessions originating from undisturbed soils are referred to as "non-local."

Sampling Methods

Seedling density was the growth response variable used to assess performance during the first growing season (2003). Measurements were taken using an 11.8- x 19.7-inch (30- x 50-cm) quadrat frame that was randomly placed at five sample locations within each (8- x 25-ft) treatment block. The quadrat was situated with its long axis perpendicular to the seeded rows so that each sampling measurement included two rows. Seedlings rooted within the quadrat frame were counted. Seeded seedlings, as well as non-seeded seedlings, were counted and recorded separately. Photographs of each treatment block were taken during sampling events. Density data was collected on June 24, 2003, to assess emergence and initial establishment and on August 25, 2003, to assess subsequent establishment and/or die off.

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Table 3. Forb and subshrub treatments included in the forb/subshrub trial at the Stucky Ridge Uplands Comparative Evaluation Planting.

Species Id. #	Genus & Species	Accession/Variety	Origin
1	*Eriogonum ovalifolium*	9082098	Deer Lodge County, MT
2	*Eriogonum umbellatum*	9082271	Utah
3	*Eriogonum umbellatum*	9082273	Idaho
4	*Krascheninnikovia lantana*	Northern Cold Desert Germplasm	Composite from UT & ID
5	*Krascheninnikovia lantana*	Open Range Germplasm	Composite from MT & WY
6	*Penstemon eriantherus*	Old Works Germplasm	Deer Lodge County, MT
7	*Penstemon eatonii*	Richfield Selected	Sevier County, UT
8	*Penstemon strictus*	'Bandera' 477980	Torrance County, NM
9	*Penstemon venustus*	Clearwater Selected	Clearwater River area, ID
10	*Phacelia hastata*	9081632	Deer Lodge County, MT
11	*Phacelia hastata*	9082275	California
12	*Potentilla gracilis*	9081679	California
13	*Potentilla hippiana*	9076274	Deer Lodge County, MT
14	*Symphyotrichum chilense*	9078675	Deer Lodge County, MT
15	*Symphyotrichum chilense*	9081678	Colorado
16	*Symphyotrichum chilense*	9082274	Unknown

Table 4. Grass treatments included in the grass trial at the Stucky Ridge Uplands Comparative Evaluation Planting.

Specie s Id. #	Genus & Species	Accession/Variety	Origin
1	Achnatherum hymenoides	9081628	Deer Lodge County, MT
2	*Achnatherum hymenoides*	9081629	Deer Lodge County, MT
3	*Achnatherum hymenoides*	‘Rimrock’	Yellowstone County, MT
4	*Achnatherum hymenoides*	‘Nezpar’	White Bird, ID
5	*Agrostis gigantea*	9076276	Deer Lodge County, MT
6	*Agrostis gigantea*	9081619	Deer Lodge County, MT
7	*Agrostis gigantea*	9076266	Deer Lodge County, MT
8	*Agrostis gigantea*	‘Streaker’	Illinois
9	*Deschampsia cespitosa*	9076290	Silver Bow County, MT
10	Deschampsia cespitosa	9082620	California
11	*Deschampsia cespitosa*	‘Nortran’	Alaska
12	*Elymus trachycaulus*	9081620	Deer Lodge County, MT
13	*Elymus trachycaulus*	9081621	Deer Lodge County, MT
14	*Elymus trachycaulus*	‘Pryor’	Carbon County, MT
15	*Elymus trachycaulus*	‘Revenue’	Saskatchewan, Canada
16	*Elymus trachycaulus*	‘San Luis’	Rio Grande County, CO
17	*Leymus cinereus*	9081624	Deer Lodge County, MT
18	*Leymus cinereus*	9081625	Deer Lodge County, MT
19	*Leymus cinereus*	Washoe Germplasm	Deer Lodge County, MT

Appendix A

Table 4. Grass treatments included in the grass trial at the Stucky Ridge Uplands Comparative Evaluation Planting--Continued.

Species Id. #	Genus & Species	Accession/Variety	Origin
20	*Leymus cinereus*	'Magnar'	Saskatchewan, Canada
21	*Leymus cinereus*	'Trailhead'	Musselshell County, MT
22	*Pascopyrum smithii*	9081968†	Deer Lodge County, MT
23	*Pascopyrum smithii*	'Rodan'	Morton County, ND
24	*Pascopyrum smithii*	'Rosana'	Rosebud County, MT
25	*Poa alpina*	9016273	Gallatin County, MT
26	*Poa alpina*	9082259	British Columbia, Canada
27	*Poa alpina*	'Gruening'	France/Switzerland
28	*Poa alpina*	9082266	Unknown
29	*Poa secunda* (*ampla*)	9081633	Deer Lodge County, MT
30	*Poa secunda* (*ampla*)	'Sherman'	Sherman County, OR
31	*Poa secunda* (*canbyi*)	'Canbar'	Columbia County, WA
32	*Poa* species	9081635	Deer Lodge County, MT
33	*Poa* species	9081322	Lewis & Clark County, MT
34	*Pseudoroegneria spicata*	9081636	Deer Lodge County, MT
35	*Pseudoroegneria spicata*	'Goldar'	Asotin County, WA
36	*Elymus wawawaiensis*	'Secar'	Washington

Table 5. Upland Areas - Experimental Seed Mix Formulation.

Species Id. #	Genus & Species	Accession/Variety	Origin	Seed Mixture Percentage
1	GRASSES:			
	Achnatherum hymenoides	9081629	Deer Lodge County, MT	15.0
	Elymus trachycaulus	9081620	Deer Lodge County, MT	15.0
	Leymus cinereus	Washoe Germ.	Deer Lodge County, MT	15.0
	Pascopyrum smithii	9081968	Deer Lodge County, MT	5.0
	Poa alpina	90816273	Gallatin County, MT	10.0
	Poa secunda (*ampla*)	9081633	Deer Lodge County, MT	15.0
	Pseudoroegneria spicata	9081636	Deer Lodge County, MT	15.0
	FORBS:			
	Aster chilensis	9078675	Deer Lodge County, MT	2.5
	Penstemon eriantherus	Old Works Germ.	Deer Lodge County, MT	5.0
	Potentilla hippiana	9076274	Silverbow County, MT	2.5

Table 6. Upland Areas - Developed Seed Mix Formulation.

Species Id. #	Genus & Species	Accession/Variety	Origin	Seed Mixture Percentage
2	GRASSES:			
	Achnatherum hymenoides	'Nezpar'	White Bird, ID	5.0
	Elymus lanceolatus	'Critana'	Hill County, MT	15.0
	Elymus trachycaulus	'Revenue'	Saskatchewan, Canada	15.0
	Festuca ovina	'Covar'	Central Turkey	10.0
	Leymus cinereus	'Magnar'	Saskatchewan, Canada	15.0
	Pascopyrum smithii	'Rosana'	Rosebud County, MT	10.0
	Poa secunda (*ampla*)	'Sherman'	Sherman County, OR	14.5
	Pseudoroegneria spicata	'Goldar'	Asotin County, WA	10.0
	FORBS:			
	Achillea lanulosa	Great Northern	Flathead County, MT	2.5
	Artemisia frigida	9082258	Unknown	0.5
	Linum lewisii	'Appar'	Custer County, SD	2.5

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Table 7. Waste Management Areas - Experimental Seed Mix Formulation

Species Id. #	Genus & Species	Accession/Variety	Origin	Seed Mixture Percentage
3	GRASSES:			
	Agrostis gigantea	9076276	Deer Lodge County, MT	15
	Deschampsia cespitosa	9076290	Silverbow County, MT	10
	Elymus trachycaulus	9081620	Deer Lodge County, MT	15
	Leymus cinereus	Washoe Germ.	Deer Lodge County, MT	15
	Pascopyrum smithii	9081968	Deer Lodge County, MT	5
	Poa secunda (*ampla*)	9081633	Deer Lodge County, MT	10
	Stipa comata	9078314	Deer Lodge County, MT	10
	FORBS:			
	Aster chilensis	9078675	Deer Lodge County, MT	10

Table 8. Waste Management Areas - Developed Seed Mix Formulation.

Species Id. #	Genus & Species	Accession/Variety	Origin	Seed Mixture Percentage
4	GRASSES:			
	Agropyrum intermedium	'Greenar'	Former USSR	10
	Bromus inermis	'Manchar'	Manchuria, China	15
	Elymus lanceolatus	'Critana'	Hill County, MT	10
	Elymus trachycaulus	'Revenue'	Saskatchewan, Canada	15
	Leymus cinereus	'Magnar'	Saskatchewan, Canada	15
	Poa secumda (*ampla*)	'Sherman'	Sherman County, OR	10
	Stipa viridula	9082255	Washington	10
	FORBS:			
	Medicago sativa	'Ladak'	Kashmir, India	15

Data was collected on June 30/July 1 and again on September 22-23, 2004 and on August 29-30, 2005. During the early summer sampling, four randomly located frames (30 x 50 cm) were utilized, from which average plant height was measured, percentage stand was estimated, and ocular estimates of plant vigor were made. Random samples were located along rows 2-3 and 6-7 to avoid edge-effect error. In the fall the same random frame locations were used to estimate percentage stand, plant vigor, plant height (2005) and sample biomass production. If combined biomass samples from all four replications did not yield at least 10 grams of material, additional clipping was done so that there would be enough biomass for tissue analysis. All biomass samples were oven dried at 60^0C (14^0F) for 24 hours, weighed, and later cut into small pieces and packaged in plastic zip-lock bags for delivery to Energy Laboratories, Inc. for tissue analysis.

Results and Discussion

Grass Trial (2003)

The grand mean of seedling density data collected on June 24, 2003, in the grass trial was 5.4 seedlings/ft^2 and ranged from 15.0 to 0.3 seedlings/ft^2 (tables 9 and 10). Three accessions of *Elymus trachycaulus* ('Pryor', 9081620, and 'San Luis') had the greatest seedling densities at 15.0, 14.1, and 13.6, respectively. These results are not surprising as *Elymus trachycaulus* is recognized for its excellent seedling vigor and quick establishment and growth on a variety of soil types. Density data collected 2 months later on August 25, 2003, indicated that these three *E. trachycaulus* accessions had significantly greater densities than 86% of the accessions tested. The locally collected

E. trachycaulus 9081620, however, did not perform significantly better than 'Pryor' or 'San Luis'.

Pascopyrum smithii ('Rosana' and 9081968) had 13.3 and 12.7 seedlings/ft^2, respectively, on June 24 (table 9). *P. smithii* is an aggressively rhizomatous, long-lived grass known to be adapted to a wide range of soil types from acidic to basic. Seedling density data collected on August 25 indicated that the above *P. smithii* accessions also had significantly greater densities than 86% of the accessions tested including *P. smithii* 'Rodan'.

Seedling density data from the June evaluation indicated that *Leymus cinereus* 9081624 had significantly greater density (7.8 seedlings/ft^2) than 80.5% of the accessions including the four other *Leymus cinereus* accessions (table 9). However, by the August evaluation *L. cinereus* 9081624 was not significantly better than *L. cinereus* 'Trailhead' (table 10). This accession's success is somewhat unexpected due to the species' poor to fair seedling vigor and slow seedling establishment. This species has been reported to be tolerant of elevated arsenic and heavy metal concentrations (Munshower 1998, September).

The *Pseudoroegneria spicata* accessions ('Goldar' and 9081636) also performed in the top third of the field in June and August (tables 9 and 10). In August, both accessions mentioned above had significantly better seedling densities than >50% of the accessions. The local accession *P. spicata* 9081636 did not perform significantly better than *P. spicata* 'Goldar'. *P. spicata* is reported to have fair seedling vigor and establishment with tolerances to acidic to slightly alkaline soils.

The grand mean for the August 25, 2003, evaluation is 4.3 seedlings/ft^2 and ranged from 14.5 to 0.31 seedlings/ft^2 (table 10). This indicates that seedling density declined by 1.1 seedlings/ft^2 or 20.4% between the June and August evaluations

Grass Trials (2004)

Based on the number of new seedlings found in 2004, there were many seeds that did not germinate during the 2003 growing season. The most notable species were *Achnatherum hymenoides* (Indian ricegrass), *Leymus cinereus* (basin wildrye), and *Pascopyrum smithii* (western wheatgrass). Indian ricegrass has a hard seed coat and should normally be dormant-seeded in the fall, but the basin wildrye and western wheatgrass may have delayed germination because of the combination of a relatively late spring planting date and subsequent hot, dry weather. The increase in new seedlings could be expressed in relatively higher percentage stands, but was not revealed in the biomass production, as seedlings were still quite small at the time of the late summer biomass sampling.

At the early summer sampling (6/30/04), the top accession, by a significant amount, was 9081620 slender wheatgrass (*Elymus trachycaulus*) with a 61.3% stand, 54.4 cm average height, and a 3.4 vigor rating. Other 'local source' accessions that exhibited good survival, stand, and vigor included 9081633 big bluegrass (*Poa secunda*), 9081621 slender wheatgrass (*Elymus trachycaulus*), 9081621 western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum smithii*), 9081624 basin wildrye (*Leymus cinereus*), 9081628 Indian ricegrass (*Achnatherum hymenoides*), 9081635 Canby bluegrass (*Poa secunda)*, and 9081636 bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*) (see table 11 and 12).

Toward the end of the growing season (9/22/04 sampling date), there was very little change in the top performing accessions (table 13). Of the top 16 accessions in the early summer evaluation, 15 were still ranked as the top performing accessions. The 9081620 slender wheatgrass remained as the top performer by a significant margin. Of the ‘local source’ accessions, 9081633 big bluegrass, 9081621 slender wheatgrass, 9081968 western wheatgrass, 9081635 Canby bluegrass, 9081624 basin wildrye, and 9081636 bluebunch wheatgrass all show promise, and are among those being increased at the Bridger PMC for potential release to the commercial seed industry. Fall biomass production was relatively low, with only 9081620 slender wheatgrass producing more than 706 kg/ha (2,083 kg/ha) (table 14). Some of the low production can be attributed to the number of new seedlings emerging in 2004. Also 2-year-old plants were often spindly because of the harsh edaphic conditions. Toward the end of the growing season (9/22/04 sampling date), there was very little change in the top performing accessions (table 13). Of the top 16 accessions in the early summer evaluation, 15 were still ranked as the top performing accessions. The 9081620 slender wheatgrass remained as the top performer by a significant margin. Of the ‘local source’ accessions, 9081633 big bluegrass, 9081621 slender wheatgrass, 9081968 western wheatgrass, 9081635 Canby bluegrass, 9081624 basin wildrye, and 9081636 bluebunch wheatgrass all show promise, and are among those being increased at the Bridger PMC for potential release to the commercial seed industry. Fall biomass production was relatively low, with only 9081620 slender wheatgrass producing more than 706 kg/ha (2,083 kg/ha) (table 14). Some of the low production can be attributed to the number of new seedlings emerging in 2004. Also 2-year-old plants were often spindly because of the harsh edaphic conditions.

Grass Trials (2005)

The grasses were evaluated and sampled on August 30, 2005. Although there has been some mortality, the top performers of 2003/2004 continue to exhibit their ability to withstand the harsh edaphic conditions of this site. Slender wheatgrass (9081620) is the top performer with an average stand of 75% (table 15), average plant height of 87.5 cm (table 16), and average biomass production of 8,211 kg/ha (table 17). Other superior accessions include 9081633 big bluegrass (stand-43.4%, biomass-2,506 kg/ha), 9081621 slender wheatgrass (stand-34.1%, biomass-4,100 kg/ha), 9081635 bluegrass (stand-25.9%, biomass-906 kg/ha), 9081968 western wheatgrass (stand-21.9%, biomass-800 kg/ha), and 9081624 basin wildrye (stand-22.2%, biomass-1,844 kg/ha). The released cultivars, Secar Snake River wheatgrass, Pryor slender wheatgrass, San Luis slender wheatgrass, Rosana western wheatgrass, and Trailhead basin wildrye were among the top performers; but, in most cases, performances were slightly less than their indigenous counterparts.

Appendix A

Not to Scale

N ←

Grass Trial

Rep 1	Rep 2	Rep 3	Rep 4
4 ACHY Nezpar	16 ELTR San Luis	30 POSE Sherman	20 LECI Magnar
24 PASM Rosana	32 POSP 9081635	23 PPSM Lodorm	36 ELNA Secar
19 LECI Washoe	22 PASM 9081968	29 POSE 9081633	11 DECE Nortran
28 POAL 1858	2 ACHY 9081629	35 PSSP Goldar	18 LECI 9081625
26 POAL 01-13-1	15 ELTR Revenue	32 POSP 9081635	10 DECE 13970176
21 LECI Trailhead	36 ELWA Secar	7 AGGI 9076266	8 AGGI Streaker
16 ELTR San Luis	13 ELTR 9081621	21 LECI Trailhead	4 ACHY Nezpar
25 POAL 9016273	1 ACHY 9081628	5 AGGI 9076276	30 POSE Sherman
11 DECE Nortran	6 AGGI 9081619	1 ACHY 9081628	35 PSSP Goldar
27 POAL Gruening	26 POAL 01-13-1	26 POAL 01-13-1	23 PASM Rodan
14 ELTR Pryor	3 ACHY Rimrock	3 ACHY Rimrock	16 ELTR San Luis
10 DECE 13970176	19 LECI Washoe	27 POAL Gruening	25 POAL 9016273
3 ACHY Rimrock	12 ELTR 9081620	13 ELTR 9081621	29 POSE 9081633
12 ELTR 9081620	27 POAL Gruening	34 PSSP 9081636	12 ELTR 9081620
30 POSE Sherman	17 LECI 9081624	10 DECE 13970176	9 DECE 9076290
17 LECI 9081624	5 AGGI 9076276	15 ELTR Revenue	27 POAL Gruening
36 ELWA Secar	30 POSE Sherman	18 LECI 9081625	6 AGGI 9081619
7 AGGI 9076266	10 DECE 13970176	12 ELTR 9081620	5 AGGI 9076276
22 PASM 9081968	11 DECE Nortran	25 POAL 9016273	13 ELTR 9081621
6 AGGI 9081619	34 PSSP 9081636	2 ACHY 9081629	32 POSP 9081635
8 AGGI Streaker	18 LECI 9081625	8 AGGI Streaker	2 ACHY 9081629
13 ELTR 9081621	8 AGGI Streaker	16 ELTR San Luis	33 POSP 9081322
29 POSE 9081633	33 POSP 9081322	22 PASM 9081968	26 POAL 01-13-1
18 LECI 9081625	21 LECI Trailhead	11 DECE Nortran	7 AGGI 9076266
33 POSP 9081322	29 POSE 9081633	4 ACHY Nezpar	15 ELTR Revenue
15 ELTR Revenue	9 DECE 9076290	33 POSP 9081322	22 PASM 9081968
35 PSSP Goldar	14 ELTR Pryor	28 POAL 1858	28 POAL 1858
1 ACHY 9081628	23 PASM Rodan	24 PASM Rosana	31 POSE Canbar
9 DECE 9076290	28 POAL 1858	20 LECI Magnar	14 ELTR Pryor
31 POSE Canbar	24 PASM Rosana	36 ELWA Secar	24 PASM Rosana
34 PSSP 9081636	31 POSE Canbar	6 AGGI 9081619	19 LECI Washoe
32 POSP 9081635	4 ACHY Nezpar	31 POSE Canbar	34 PSSP 9081636
2 ACHY 9081629	35 PSSP Goldar	14 ELTR Pryor	17 LECI 9081624
5 AGGI 9076276	20 LECI Magnar	17 LECI 9081624	3 ACHY Rimrock
23 PASM Rodan	7 AGGI 9076266	9 DECE 9076290	1 ACHY 9081628
20 LECI Magnar	25 POAL 9016273	19 LECI Washoe	21 LECI Trailhead

Seed Mixture Trial

Rep 1	Rep 2	Rep 3	Rep 4
4 WMA Dev	3 WMA Exp	4 WMA Dev	1 UP Exp
1 UP Exp	2 UP Dev	1 UP Exp	4 WMA Dev
2 UP Dev	1 UP Exp	3 WMA Exp	3 WMA Exp
3 WMA Exp	4 WMA Dev	2 UP Dev	2 UP Dev

Forb/Subshrub Trial

Rep 1	Rep 2
10 PHHA 9081632	8 PEST Bandera
12 POGI 9081679	5 KRLA Op.Range
1 EROV 9082098	4 KRLA NCD
14 SYCH 9078675	15 SYCH 9081678
16 SYCH 5255-RS	9 PEVE Clearwater
6 PEER Old Works	1 EROV 9082098
4 KRLA NCD	6 PEER Old Works
9 PEVE Clearwater	7 PEEA Richfield
7 PEEA Richfield	3 ERUM 01-206-1
11 PHHA 9003	12 POGR 9081679
3 ERUM 01-206-1	11 PHHA 9003
15 SYCH 9081678	10 PHHA 9081632
8 PEST Bandera	2 ERUM 450
13 POHI 9076274	13 POHI 9076274
5 KRLA Op.Range	16 SYCH 5255-RS
2 ERUM 450	14 SYCH 9078675

Rep 3	Rep 4
12 POGI 9081679	11 PHHA 9003
9 PEVE Clearwater	10 PHHA 9081632
5 KRLA Op.Range	5 KRLA Op.Range
4 KRLA NCD	13 POHI 9076274
16 SYCH 5255-RS	6 PEER Old Works
13 POHI 9076274	8 PEST Bandera
10 PHHA 9081632	15 SYCH 9081678
15 SYCH 9081678	7 PEEA Richfield
11 PHHA 9003	4 KRLA NCD
8 PEST Bandera	12 POGR 9081679
2 ERUM 450	2 ERUM 450
1 EROV 9082098	9 PEVE Clearwater
6 PEER Old Works	1 EROV 9082098
3 ERUM 01-206-1	14 SYCH 9078675
7 PEEA Richfield	16 SYCH 5255-RS
14 SYCH 9078675	3 ERUM 01-206-1

Figure 1. Layout of the grass, forb/subshrub, and seed mixture trials at the Stucky Ridge Comparative Evaluation Planting.

Appendix A

Table 9. **Density** (seedlings per square foot) sampled on **June 24, 2003**, at the Stucky Ridge Comparative Evaluation Planting grass trial.

Genus & Species	Accession	Species ID	Density/ft^2	Mean Separation
Elymus trachycaulus	'Pryor'	14	14.97	A*
Elymus trachycaulus	9081620	12	14.09	AB
Elymus trachycaulus	'San Luis'	16	13.63	AB
Pascopyrum smithii	'Rosana'	24	13.31	AB
Pascopyrum smithii	9081968	22	12.72	AB
Pseudoroegneria spicata	9081636	34	11.75	BC
Leymus cinereus	9081624	17	11.25	BC
Elymus wawawaiensis	'Secar'	36	9.47	CD
Elymus trachycaulus	9081621	13	9.34	CD
Pseudoroegneria spicata	'Goldar'	35	9.09	CDE
Achnatherum hymenoides	'Nezpar'	4	8.94	CDEF
Elymus trachycaulus	'Revenue'	15	8.75	CDEFG
Poa secunda	9081633	29	7.13	DEFG
Leymus cinereus	'Magnar'	20	6.13	EFGH
Leymus cinereus	'Trailhead'	21	5.81	FGH
Pascopyrum smithii	'Rodan'	23	5.66	GH
Leymus cinereus	9081625	18	3.84	HI
Leymus cinereus	Washoe Germplasm	19	3.66	HIJ
Poa secunda	'Sherman'	30	3.13	HIJ
Agrostis gigantea	9081619	6	2.38	IJ
Poa alpine	9016273	25	2.34	IJ
Poa species	9081635	32	1.88	IJ
Agrostis gigantea	9076276	5	1.75	IJ
Poa alpine	9082266	28	1.72	IJ
Poa species	9081322	33	1.31	IJ
Achnatherum hymenoides	'Rimrock'	3	1.28	IJ
Deschampsia cespitosa	9076290	9	1.28	IJ
Poa secunda	'Canbar'	31	1.22	IJ
Deschampsia cespitosa	'Nortran'	11	1.00	IJ
Agrostis gigantea	9076266	7	0.81	IJ
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081629	2	0.78	IJ
Agrostis gigantea	'Streaker'	8	0.75	IJ
Poa alpine	9082259	26	0.66	IJ
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081628	1	0.59	IJ
Deschampsia cespitosa	9082260	10	0.56	IJ
Poa alpine	'Gruening'	27	0.34	J

* Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different at the 0.05 significance level using the Duncan's Multiple Range Test.

Appendix A

Table 10. **Density** (seedlings per square foot) sampled on **August 25, 2003**, at the Stucky Ridge Comparative Evaluation Planting grass trial.

Genus & Species	Accession	Species ID	Density/ft^2	Mean Separation
Elymus trachycaulus	9081620	12	14.47	A*
Elymus trachycaulus	‘San Luis’	16	13.44	A
Elymus trachycaulus	‘Pryor’	14	12.13	A
Pascopyrum smithii	‘Rosana’	24	12.00	A
Pascopyrum smithii	9081968	22	11.59	A
Elymus trachycaulus	‘Revenue’	15	8.38	B
Leymus cinereus	9081624	17	7.81	BC
Pseudoroegneria spicata	‘Goldar’	35	7.28	BC
Pseudoroegneria spicata	9081636	34	7.16	BC
Elymus wawawaiensis	‘Secar’	36	6.56	BC
Achnatherum hymenoides	‘Nezpar’	4	6.53	BC
Elymus trachycaulus	9081621	13	6.09	BC
Pascopyrum smithii	‘Rodan’	23	5.75	BCD
Poa secunda	9081633	29	5.16	CDE
Leymus cinereus	‘Trailhead’	21	4.91	CDE
Leymus cinereus	‘Magnar’	20	3.00	DEF
Leymus cinereus	9081625	18	2.44	EF
Poa secunda	‘Sherman’	30	2.34	EF
Agrostis gigantea	9081619	6	2.28	EF
Leymus cinereus	Washoe Germplasm	19	2.16	EF
Agrostis gigantea	9076276	5	1.47	F
Poa alpine	9082266	28	1.25	F
Poa alpine	9082259	26	1.03	F
Agrostis gigantea	9076266	7	0.97	F
Achnatherum hymenoides	‘Rimrock’	3	0.91	F
Poa alpine	9016273	25	0.91	F
Poa species	9081635	32	0.91	F
Deschampsia cespitosa	‘Nortran’	11	0.88	F
Poa species	9081322	33	0.72	F
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081628	1	0.59	F
Poa alpine	‘Gruening’	27	0.53	F
Poa secunda	‘Canbar’	31	0.47	F
Deschampsia cespitosa	9076290	9	0.44	F
Deschampsia cespitosa	9082260	10	0.38	F
Agrostis gigantea	‘Streaker’	8	0.34	F
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081629	2	0.31	F

* Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different at the 0.05 significance level using the Duncan’s Multiple Range Test.

Appendix A

Table 11. Percentage **stand and vigor** of grass trials on Stucky Ridge Plots (evaluated **6/30/04**).

Genus & Species	Accession	Stand	Vigor
		%	*1--9*
Elymus trachycaulus	9081620	61.3 a*	3.4
Achnatherum hymenoides	Rimrock	31.3 b	4.8
Poa secunda	9081633	31.3 b	3.3
Elymus trachycaulus	9081621	28.4 bc	4.8
Elymus trachycaulus	Pryor	26.9 bcd	4.8
Pascopyrum smithii	9081968	26.7 bcd	4.9
Achnatherum hymenoides	Nezpar	25.3 bcde	5
Leymus cinereus	9081624	20.8 bcdef	4.4
Elymus wawawaiensis	Secar	20 bcdefg	4.6
Elymus trachycaulus	Revenue	19.7 cdefg	4.8
Elymus trachycaulus	San Luis	18.6 cdefgh	4.8
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081628	18.3 cdefgh	5.6
Pascopyrum smithii	Rosana	16.9 defghi	4.75
Leymus cinereus	Trailhead	15.1 efghij	4.8
Poa secunda	9081635	15 efghij	3.3
Pseudoroegneria spicata	9081636	14.5 efghijk	5.3
Leymus cinereus	Washoe	12.8 fghijkl	5
Leymus cinereus	Magnar	12.2 fghijkl	5.3
Pascopyrum smithii	Rodan	11.8 fghijklm	5.3
Agrostis gigantea	9081619	10.7 fghijklm	3.2
Leymus cinereus	9081625	10.1 fghijklm	5.5
Pseudoroegneria spicata	Goldar	10 fghijklm	5
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081629	8.6 ghijklm	5.7
Agrostis gigantea	9076276	8.1 hijklm	2.6
Poa secunda	Sherman	6.2 ijklm	4.8
Poa alpina	1—13--1	4.1 jklm	3.3
Deschampsia cespitosa	9076290	4 jklm	4.2
Poa secunda	9081322	3.6 klm	4.3
Poa alpina	9016273	3.3 klm	4.6
Agrostis gigantea	9076266	3.1 klm	2.5
Poa alpina	1858	1.4 lm	4.5
Deschampsia cespitosa	Nortran	0.6 m	2.1
Poa alpina	Gruening	0.5 m	4
Agrostis gigantea	Streaker	0.4 m	5.2
Poa secunda	Canbar	0.4 m	6.2
Deschampsia cespitosa	13970176	0.2 m	5.3

* Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different at the 0.05 significance level using the LSD Mean Comparison method.

Appendix A

Table 12. Average **plant height** of grasses in Stucky Ridge plots (measured **6/30/04**).

Genus & Species	Accession	Height
		mm
Elymus trachycaulus	9081620	54.4 a*
Elymus trachycaulus	9081621	34.2 c
Agrostis gigantea	9076276	33.3 cd
Agrostis gigantea	9081619	27.1 cde
Poa secunda	9081633	26.5 cdef
Elymus wawawaiensis	Secar	24 defg
Poa secunda	9081635	23.3 efgh
Pseudoroegneria spicata	Goldar	22.5 efghi
Agrostis gigantea	9076266	21 efghij
Elymus trachycaulus	Pryor	18.5 efghijk
Leymus cinereus	9081624	17.9 efghijkl
Poa secunda	9081322	17.5 fghijkl
Achnatherum hymenoides	Nezpar	16.9 ghijklm
Leymus cinereus	Trailhead	16.1 ghijklmn
Elymus trachycaulus	San Luis	14.5 hijklmno
Deschampsia cespitosa	9076290	14.5 hijklmno
Elymus trachycaulus	Revenue	14.3 hijklmno
Pascopyrum smithii	Rosana	13.5 ijklmno
Achnatherum hymenoides	Rimrock	13 jklmnop
Leymus cinereus	Magnar	12.8 jklmnop
Leymus cinereus	Washoe	12.5 jklmnop
Pascopyrum smithii	Rodan	12.3 jklmnop
Pseudoroegneria spicata	9081636	12 jklmnop
Pascopyrum smithii	9081968	11.3 klmnop
Leymus cinereus	9081625	10.6 klmnop
Agrostis gigantea	Streaker	10.3 klmnop
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081628	9.1 lmnop
Poa alpine	1--13—1	8.1 mnop
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081629	7.6 mnop
Deschampsia cespitosa	13970176	7 nop
Poa secunda	Sherman	6.8 nop
Poa secunda	Canbar	6.3 op
Deschampsia cespitosa	Nortran	6 op
Poa alpina	9016273	5.8 op
Poa alpina	Gruening	4.5 p
Poa alpina	1858	3.9 p

* Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different at the 0.05 significance level using the LSD Mean Comparison method.

Appendix A

Table 13. Percentage **stand and vigor** of grasses in Stucky Ridge plots (evaluated **9/22/04**).

Genus & Species	Accession	Stand	Vigor
		%	*1—9*
Elymus trachycaulus	9081620	61.3 a*	1.8
Poa secunda	9081633	37.2 c	2.4
Elymus trachycaulus	9081621	30 cd	2.7
Pascopyrum smithii	9081968	28.4 cde	4
Elymus trachycaulus	Pryor	27.5 cde	4.6
Pascopyrum smithii	Rosana	26.3 de	3.6
Achnatherum hymenoides	Rimrock	24.1 def	4.2
Poa sp.	9081635	24.1 def	2.8
Elymus trachycaulus	Revenue	23.8 defg	4.3
Leymus cinereus	9081624	22.8 defgh	3.6
Leymus cinereus	Trailhead	20 defghi	4
Elymus wawawiensis	Secar	19.2 defghi	4
Elymus trachycaulus	San Luis	19.1 defghi	4.4
Achnatherum hymenoides	Nezpar	18.4 efghij	4.1
Pseudoroegneria spicata	9081636	17.9 efghij	3.8
Agrostis gigantea	9081619	17.8 efghij	2.1
Pascopyrum smithii	Rodan	16.6 fghijk	4.5
Agrostis gigantea	9076276	15.9 fghijk	2.7
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081628	14.4 ghijkl	4.9
Leymus cinereus	Washoe	14.1 ghijkl	4.6
Leymus cinereus	Magnar	13.4 ghijkl	4.7
Pseudoroegneria spicata	Goldar	13.4 ghijkl	4.1
Poa secunda	Sherman	12.2 hijklm	4.1
Poa sp.	9081322	11.9 ijklm	2.9
Leymus cinereus	9081625	11.6 ijklmn	4.1
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081629	11.3 ijklmno	5.4
Poa alpina	01-13-1	8.4 jklmnop	3.6
Agrostis gigantea	9076266	7.8 jklmnop	2.1
Dechampsia cespitosa	9076290	6.3 klmnop	2.8
Poa alpina	9016273	5.2 lmnop	3.6
Poa alpina	1858	4.4 lmnop	3.6
Agrostis gigantea	Streaker	1.9 mnop	4
Dechampsia cespitosa	13970176	1.9 mnop	3.3
Poa alpina	Gruening	1.1 op	3.3
Dechampsia cespitosa	Nortran	0.4 op	3
Poa secunda	Canbar	0 op	9

* Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different at the 0.05 significance level using the LSD Mean Comparison method.

Appendix A

Table 14. **Biomass** production of grasses in Stucky Ridge Trials (clipped **9/22/04**).

Genus & Species	Accession	Biomass
		kg/ha
Elymus trachycaulus	9081620	2,083 a*
Agrostis gigantea	9081619	706 cd
Elymus trachycaulus	9081621	544 cde
Poa secunda	9081633	408 cdef
Elymus trachycaulus	Pryor	386 cdef
Elymus wawawiensis	Secar	346 def
Leymus cinereus	9081624	216 ef
Leymus cinereus	Trailhead	192 ef
Elymus trachycaulus	Revenue	172 ef
Leymus cinereus	Washoe	148 ef
Agrostis gigantea	9076276	148 ef
Poa secunda	Sherman	115 ef
Elymus trachycaulus	San Luis	100 f
Poa sp.	9081635	100 f
Dechampsia cespitosa	9076290	99 f
Pseudoroegneria spicata	9081636	97 f
Pascopyrum smithii	Rosana	95 f
Achnatherum hymenoides	Rimrock	84 f
Leymus cinereus	9081625	52 f
Pascopyrum smithii	Rodan	45 f
Pseudoroegneria spicata	Goldar	43 f
Poa sp.	9081322	34 f
Agrostis gigantea	9076266	29 f
Poa alpina	01-13-1	14 f
Pascopyrum smithii	9081968	11 f
Achnatherum hymenoides	Nezpar	9 f
Dechampsia cespitosa	13970176	8 f
Poa alpina	9016273	7 f
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081629	4 f
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081628	4 f
Leymus cinereus	Magnar	3 f
Poa alpina	1858	2 f
Poa alpina	Gruening	2 f
Dechampsia cespitosa	Nortran	1 f
Agrostis gigantea	Streaker	tr f
Poa secunda	Canbar	0 f

* Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different at the 0.05 significance level using the LSD Mean Comparison method.

Appendix A

Table15. Percentage **stand and vigor** of grass trials on Stucky Ridge Plots (evaluated **8/30/05**).

Genus & Species	Accession	Stand	Vigor
		%	*1--9*
Elymus trachycaulus	9081620	75.0 a*	2.1
Poa secunda	9081633	43.4 b	2.1
Elymus trachycaulus	9081621	34.1 bc	2.7
Poa secunda	9081635	25.9 cd	3.3
Elymus trachycaulus	Pryor	23.1 cde	5.3
Leymus cinereus	9081624	22.2 cdef	3.8
Pascopyrum smithii	9081968	21.9 defg	4.5
Elymus wawiensis	Secar	21.6 defg	4.3
Elymus trachycaulus	San Luis	20.9 defgh	4.6
Pascopyrum smithii	Rosana	20.6 defgh	4.7
Leymus cinereus	Trailhead	16.2 defghi	4.3
Pascopyrum smithii	Rodan	16.2 defghi	5.0
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081628	14.1 defghij	5.3
Achnatherum hymenoides	Rimrock	14.1 defghij	4.5
Leymus cinereus	9081625	13.8 defghij	5.5
Pseudoroegneria spicata	9081636	13.8 defghij	4.5
Agrostis gigantea	9081619	13.4 efghijk	3.2
Leymus cinereus	Washoe	13.4 efghijk	4.8
Agrostis gigantea	9076276	13.1 efghijk	3.7
Poa secunda	Sherman	12.5 efghijkl	4.0
Achnatherum hymenoides	Nezpar	11.9 efghijklm	4.6
Elymus trachycaulus	Revenue	11.9 efghijklm	5.4
Pseudoroegneria spicata	Goldar	11.1 efghijklm	4.6
Leymus cinereus	Magnar	10.9 fghijklm	5.2
Deschampsia cespitosa	9076290	10.6 fghijklm	3.9
Poa secunda	9081322	10.0 ghijklm	4.2
Agrostis gigantea	9076266	9.0 hijklm	4.0
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081629	6.4 ijklm	5.7
Poa alpina	01-13-1	3.9 jklm	5.0
Poa alpina	1858	3.6 jklm	5.3
Poa alpina	9016273	3.0 jklm	3.8
Deschampsia cespitosa	Nortran	1.6 klm	3.8
Deschampsia cespitosa	13970176	0.9 lm	3.8
Poa alpina	Gruening	0.8 lm	1.5
Agrostis giganteus	Streaker	0.4 m	1.5
Poa secunda	Canbar	0.1 m	8.0

* Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different at the 0.05 significance level using the LSD Mean Comparison method.

Appendix A

Table 16. Average **plant height** of grasses in Stucky Ridge plots (measured **8/30/05**).

Genus & Species	**Accession**	**Height**
		(cm)
Elymus trachycaulus	9081620	87.5 a*
Elymus trachycaulus	9081621	76.3 a
Poa secunda	9081633	59.0 b
Leymus cinereus	9081624	58.0 bc
Elymus trachycaulus	Pryor	47.0 bcd
Elymus wawawiensis	Secar	46.5 bcde
Elymus trachycaulus	San Luis	46.3 bcde
Poa secunda	9081635	45.6 bcdef
Leymus cinereus	9081625	44.0 bcdef
Agrostis giganteus	9081619	43.8 bcdef
Leymus cinereus	Trailhead	42.9 cdefg
Achnatherum hymenoides	Rimrock	39.5 defg
Elymus trachycaulus	Revenue	36.9 defgh
Poa secunda	9081322	36.9 defgh
Leymus cinereus	Washoe	36.1 defgh
Agrostis giganteus	9076276	35.0 defgh
Achnatherum hymenoides	Nezpar	33.4 defgh
Pseudoroegneria spicata	Goldar	33.1 defgh
Pseudoroegneria spicata	9081636	31.5 efgh
Leymus cinereus	Magnar	30.9 fghi
Poa secunda	Sherman	30.4 fghi
Pascopyrum smithii	Rosana	28.6 ghi
Pascopyrum smithii	Rodan	27.5 ghi
Agrostis giganteus	9076266	26.3 ghi
Pascopyrum smithii	9081968	24.7 hi
Deschampsia cespitosa	9076290	22.8 hi
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081628	20.8 hij
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081629	15.9 ijk
Poa alpina	01-13-1	6.4 jkl
Deschampsia cespitosa	Nortran	5.7 jkl
Poa alpina	9016273	5.4 kl
Deschampsia cespitosa	13970176	4.5 kl
Poa alpina	1858	4.1 kl
Poa alpina	Gruening	1.1 kl
Agrostis giganteus	Streaker	0.9 kl
Poa secunda	Canbar	0.0 l

* Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different at the 0.05 significance level using the LSD Mean Comparison method.

Appendix A

Table 17. **Biomass** production of grasses in Stucky Ridge Trials (clipped **8/30/05**).

Genus & Species	**Accession**	**Biomass**
		kg/ha
Elymus trachycaulus	9081620	8,211 a*
Elymus tracycaulus	9081621	4,100 b
Poa secunda	9081633	2,506 c
Leymus cinereus	Trailhead	2,222 cd
Agrostis giganteus	9076276	2,189 cd
Agrostis giganteus	9081619	2,039 cde
Leymus cinereus	9081624	1,844 cdef
Elymus trachycaulus	Pryor	1,578 cdefg
Agrostis giganteus	9076266	1,367 cdefgh
Elymus wawawiensis	Secar	1,289 cdefgh
Poa sp.	9081635	906 defgh
Achnatherum hymenoides	Nezpar	872 defgh
Deschampsia cespitosa	9076290	844 defgh
Pascopyrum smithii	9081968	800 defgh
Pascopyrum smithii	Rosana	650 efgh
Leymus cinereus	Magnar	639 efgh
Elymus tachycaulus	San Luis	622 efgh
Elymus trachycaulus	Revenue	578 fgh
Leymus cinereus	9081625	428 fgh
Leymus cinereus	Washoe	361 gh
Achnatherum hymenoides	Rimrock	339 gh
Pseudoroegneria spicata	9081636	317 gh
Pseudoroegneria spicata	Goldar	272 gh
Poa secunda	9081322	233 gh
Pascopyrum smithii	Rodan	189 gh
Poa secunda	Sherman	189 gh
Agrostis giganteus	Streaker	122 h
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081628	61 h
Achnatherum hymenoides	9081629	61 h
Poa alpina	9016273	51 h
Poa alpina	1858	28 h
Deschampsia cespitosa	13970176	28 h
Poa alpina	01-13-1	23 h
Poa alpina	Groening	0 h
Deschampsia cespitosa	Nortran	0 h
Poa secunda	Canbar	0 h

* Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different at the 0.05 significance level using the LSD Mean Comparison method.

Seed Mixture Trial

The forbs included in the seed mixtures (see Planting Design section) did not emerge; therefore, densities reflect only emergent grass seedlings (tables 5, 6, 7, and 8). During the establishment year, the Developed Waste Management Area (WMA) mix had the greatest seedling density with 10.5 seedlings/ft^2 (table18). The Experimental WMA mix had the lowest density with 6.3 seedlings/ft^2. The two Developed mixtures averaged 9.9 seedlings/ft^2. The two Experimental mixtures averaged 6.3 seedlings/ft^2. There were no significant differences among the mixtures at the P=0.05 level. By the fall of the first year, the Developed WMA mixture still had the highest density (8.0 seedlings/ft^2) and the Experimental WMA mixture the lowest density (6.9 seedlings/ft^2). The two Developed mixtures averaged 7.7 seedlings/ft^2 and the two Experimental mixtures averaged 6.9 seedlings/ft^2. As in June, no significant differences were seen among the four seed mixtures.

At the start of the second growing season (2004), the two Experimental mixes had significantly better stands (Upland Exp.—39.4% and Waste Mgmt. Exp.—38.1%) than did the Developed mixes (Upland Dev.—17.3 and Waste Mgmt. Dev.—15.0%). By fall of the second year, the stands of all the mixes had increased, but the Experimental mixes were still significantly better than the Developed mixes. Biomass production of the Experimental mixes was also significantly better than that of the Developed mixes.

During the third year (2005), the percentage stands of all mixes increased only slightly, but the biomass production was much higher. The Experimental mixes were dominated by 9081620 slender wheatgrass, while the Developed mixes were dominated by Revenue slender wheatgrass and Critana thickspike wheatgrass. The Waste Management Experimental mix topped all mixes with 8,933 kg/ha of oven-dry biomass production.

Table 18. Moto-X Replicated Mixture Trial on Stucky Ridge.

	Density	Density	Stand	Stand	Stand	Height	Height	Biomass	Biomass
	6/03	8/03	6/04	9/04	8/05	2004	2005	2004	2005
	^{2}	*no/ft*^{2}	*%*	*%*	*%*	*cm*	*cm*	*kg/ha*	*kg/ha*
Upland Exp.	**6.4**	**7.4**	**39.4**	**45.9**	**60.6**	**45.8**	**78.8**	**790**	**5939**
Upland Dev.	9.3	7.0	17.3	24.4	25.9	14.8	47.2	215	2011
Waste Mgmt Area Exp	**6.3**	**6.9**	**38.1**	**46.9**	**59.7**	**44.8**	**82.5**	**1206**	**8933**
Waste Mgmt Area Dev	10.5	8.0	15.0	23.8	28.4	19.8	56.6	306	4494

no/ft

Forb/Subshrub Trial

Ten of the 16 trial entries had no emergence and 15 of the 16 entries had <0.50 seedlings/ft^2 the seedling year (table 19). The subshrub, winterfat (*Krascheninnikovia lanata*) Open Range Germplasm, was the only entry that demonstrated significant emergence with 9.5 seedlings/ft^2. The lack of forb emergence may be due to the May 13 planting date. The forb species in the study may have some physiological (after ripening) or physical (hard seed coat) seed dormancy. To overcome seed dormancy, many forb seeds generally require several weeks (8 to 14 weeks) of cold chilling. As with the grass species, some additional germination and emergence was expected in the spring of 2004, but this did not happen with the forb species. Some species such as thickstem aster (*Symphyotrichum chilense*) and buckwheat (*Eriogonum* sp.) do better with shallow seeding. By the second growing season, only plants of Open Range winterfat and 9081632 silverleaf phacelia remained alive. There was no sign of new emergence of any of the accessions/species in the spring of 2004. The surviving, mature plants of Open Range Germplasm winterfat performed well, with some plants flowering and setting seed. After the third growing season (2005), plants of Open Range winterfat, 9081632 silverleaf phacelia, Old Works fuzzytongue penstemon, Richfield firecracker penstemon, and Northern Cold Desert winterfat were found to be surviving. New plants of firecracker penstemon and fuzzytongue penstemon had germinated two years after being planted. The surviving plants of Open Range winterfat and 9081632 silverleaf phacelia exhibited good vigor, growth, and seed production.

Table 19. Seedling density (2003), percentage stand (2004), and total plant density (2005) of forb and subshrub accessions in the Stucky Ridge Comparative Evaluation Planting (evaluated 6/24/03, 8/25/03, 6/30/04, 9/22/04, and 8/30/05).

Genus & Species	Variety/Accession	Species ID	2003 Density/ft^2 6/24	2003 Density/ft^2 8/25	2004 Stand 6/30	2004 Stand 9/22	2005 Avg.Plants/ Plot 8/30
					%	%	
Krascheninnikovia lanata	Open Range Germplasm	5	9.47 a*	6.75 a*	5.5 a*	4.5 a*	20.00
Phacelia hastata	9081632	10	0.28 b	0.22 b	0.5 b	0.5 b	6.00
Krascheninnikovia lanata	Northern Cold Desert Germ.	4	0.19 b	0.16 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	0.25
Penstemon strictus	'Bandera'	8	0.19 b	0.03 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	0
Erigonum umbellatum	9082271	2	0.06 b	0.00 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	0
Penstemon venustus	Clearwater Selected	9	0.03 b	0.00 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	0
Erigonum umbellatum	9082273	3	0.00 b	0.00 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	0
Penstemon eatonii	Richfield Select	7	0.00 b	0.00 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	0.75
Erigonum ovalifolium	9082098	1	0.00 b	0.00 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	0
Penstemon eriantherus	Old Works Germplasm	6	0.00 b	0.00 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	15.00
Phacelia hastate	9082275	11	0.00 b	0.00 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	0
Potentilla gracilis	9081679	12	0.00 b	0.00 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	0
Potentilla hippiana	9076274	13	0.00 b	0.00 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	0
Symphyotrichum chilense	9078675	14	0.00 b	0.00 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	0
Symphyotrichum chilense	9081678	15	0.00 b	0.00 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	0
Symphyotrichum chilense	9082274	16	0.00 b	0.00 b	0.0 b	0.0 b	0

* Means followed by the same letter are similar at the 0.05 level of significance using the LSD Mean Comparison method.

Appendix A

Tissue Analysis

Following the Fall 2004 and Fall 2005 evaluation for cover and vigor, each individual plot was sampled for biomass production. These clippings from all four replications, along with additional clipping of low producing plots, made up the 10 gram or greater of oven-dry samples that were submitted for tissue analysis. Samples were submitted to Energy Laboratories, Inc. in Billings, Montana, for determination of heavy-metal concentrations in and on sampled plant materials from the Stucky Ridge Moto-X site. Metal loads (concentration in and on the plant tissue) can be compared to maximum tolerable levels of dietary minerals for domestic animals (National Reseach Council 1980). The dietary level of cadmium for domesticated animals is based on human food residue considerations (NRC, 1980), and the need to avoid increases of cadmium in the food supply of the United States. Higher residue levels (>0.50 mg/kg) for a short period of time would not be expected to be harmful to animal health nor to human food use, particularly if the animals were slaughtered at a young age. Based on a review of the scientific literature, ranges of elemental levels for mature leaf tissue have been presented by Kabata-Pendias and Pendias (1992). The authors provide elemental levels for generalized plant species into ranges representing deficient, sufficient, or normal, and excessive or toxic (table 20).

All tissue samples are unreplicated composites of samples from random plants in all four replications of the Stucky Ridge Comparative Evaluation Trial. Metal loads in the sampled tissue were generally below toxic levels.

Arsenic (As)—Arsenic was detected in 19 of the 39 samples in 2004 and in 32 of the 40 samples in 2005 with levels ranging from 5 mg/kg to 35 mg/kg. This is below the tolerable levels for domestic livestock (50 mg/kg) and wildlife (50 mg/kg). However, the detected levels rank in the 'Excessive or Toxic' level in plants.

Cadmium (Cd)—This element was detected in only one sample (Rimrock Indian ricegrass) in 2004 and in 2005 it was detected in 5 samples (3 of which were in Indian ricegrasses). The detected level (1-2 mg/kg) are at the tolerable level for domestic livestock (0.5 mg/kg) and wildlife (2 mg/kg).

Copper (Cu)—Copper detected in all tissue samples ranging from 14 mg/kg to 307 mg/kg. Only three samples (2004) and 5 samples (2005) exceeded the tolerable level for domestic livestock (100 mg/kg), but 15 samples (2004) and 19 samples (2005) exceeded the tolerable level for wildlife (55 mg/kg). Since this is a copper smelting impacted area, high levels of copper are to be expected.

Lead (Pb)—Lead was detected in a sample of ten-petal blazing star (*Mentselia decapetala)* only (2004), at a level of 9 mg/kg, well below the tolerable level for domestic livestock and wildlife. In 2005 lead was detected in only four samples and at very low levels.

Zinc (Zn)—Zinc was detected in all samples, ranging from 14 mg/kg to 175 mg/kg well below the tolerable level for domestic livestock (500 mg/kg) and wildlife (300 mg/kg).

Worth noting was the fact that heavy metal concentrations were highest in/on alpine blue grass, silverleaf phacelia, winterfat and fuzzytongue pemstemon. This is likely due to the excess dust particles on the low profile plants and ones with leaf pubescence.

Appendix A

Table 20. Heavy metal concentrations of clipped biomass samples from the Stucky Ridge Comparative Evaluation Trials (sampled 9/22/04, analyzed 11/10/04, sampled 8/29/05, analyzed 10/10/05).

Lot #	Species	Al		As		Cd		Cu		Pb		Zn	
		mg/kg		mg/kg		mg/kg		mg/kg		mg/kg		mg/kg	
		2004	**2005**	**2004**	**2005**	**2004**	**2005**	**2004**	**2005**	**2004**	**2005**	**2004**	**2005**
1	ACHY 9081628	331	279	6	8	ND	2	39	34	ND	ND	123	88
2	ACHY 9081629	288	420	9	8	ND	2	41	35	ND	ND	111	73
3	ACHY Rimrock	235	332	ND	9	5	1	17	35	ND	ND	68	38
4	ACHY Nezpar	276	200	ND	ND	ND	ND	16	21	ND	ND	51	31
5	AGGI 9076276	258	382	ND	6	ND	ND	46	62	ND	ND	54	41
6	AGGI 9081619	663	375	ND	ND	ND	ND	100	62	ND	ND	51	64
7	AGGI 9076266	548	320	ND	6	ND	ND	74	39	ND	ND	100	49
8	AGGI Streaker		2500		35		ND		243		13		78
9	DECE 9076290	334	405	5	6	ND	1	48	45	ND	ND	63	52
10	DECE 13970176	1420	121	8	6	ND	ND	57	14	ND	ND	87	44
11	DECE Nortran	336		8		ND		29		ND		67	
12	ELTR 9081620	242	285	ND	5	ND	ND	26	47	ND	ND	14	16
13	ELTR 9081621	197	283	ND	ND	ND	ND	38	41	ND	ND	21	22
14	ELTR Pryor	301	413	ND	8	ND	ND	25	62	ND	ND	37	35
15	ELTR Revenue	280	445	ND	7	ND	ND	48	65	ND	ND	50	47
16	ELTR San Luis	441	193	ND	6	ND	ND	45	27	ND	ND	40	33
17	LECI 9081624	424	436	ND	5	ND	ND	62	73	ND	ND	111	55
18	LECI 9081625	463	559	6	9	ND	1	72	76	ND	ND	172	124
19	LECI Washoe	472	366	7	ND	ND	ND	47	47	ND	ND	175	106
20	LECI Magnar	636	410	11	8	ND	ND	113	63	ND	ND	84	69
21	LECI Trailhead	441	391	ND	8	ND	ND	35	51	ND	ND	85	93
22	PASM 9081968	374	315	6	5	ND	ND	45	41	ND	ND	86	64
23	PASM Rodan	495	243	7	6	ND	ND	52	29	ND	ND	56	39
24	PASM Rosana	210	318	6	9	ND	ND	29	47	ND	ND	61	52
25	POAL 9016273	799	1740	7	21	ND	ND	50	120	ND	8	45	64
26	POAL 01-13-1	1220	695	8	17	ND	ND	78	80	ND	ND	49	50
27	POAL Greuning	706		ND		ND		40		ND		36	
28	POAL 1858	1190	1410	ND	20	ND	ND	33	93	ND	9	62	156
29	POSE 9081633	442	417	9	ND	ND	ND	49	52	ND	ND	35	44
30	POSE Sherman	311	420	9	12	ND	ND	36	52	ND	ND	94	106
31	POSE Canbar	no samples											
32	POSP 9081635	364	549	11	14	ND	ND	46	59	ND	ND	38	44
33	POSP 9081322	441	346	ND	9	ND	ND	83	62	ND	ND	57	64
34	PSSP 9081636	676	931	16	20	ND	ND	76	112	ND	ND	81	84
35	PSSP Goldar	654	548	13	12	ND	ND	81	68	ND	ND	77	58
36	ELWA Secar	396	635	ND	7	ND	ND	34	59	ND	ND	68	65
1	UPEXP	392	266	ND	ND	ND	ND	51	43	ND	ND	22	31
2	UPDEV	268	545	ND	12	ND	ND	31	69	ND	ND	73	40
3	WMAEXP	374	421	ND	ND	ND	ND	35	50	ND	ND	27	25
4	WMADEV	270	548	ND	9	ND	ND	26	66	ND	ND	67	44
5	KRLA Op. Range	1173.3	372	7.5	ND	ND	ND	108.3	44	ND	ND	82	47
6	PEER Old Works		1280		14		ND		65		ND		31
10	PHHA 9081632		3720		42		ND		307		15		91
Maximum Tolerable Levels for													
Domestic livestock[1].				50		0.5		100		30		500	
Wildlife[2].				50		2		55		40		300	
Metal levels in Plants[3].													
Deficient								2 to 5					

Appendix A

Sufficient or Normal	1 to 1.7	0.05 to 0.2	5 to 30	5 to 10	27 to 150
Excessive or Toxic	5 to 20	5 to 30	20 to 100	30 to 300	100 to 400
1. NRC 1980, 2. Ford, 1996, 3. Kabata-Pendias and Pendias 1992.					

CONCLUSION

Not all of the potential germinable seeds germinated the first year (2003). The record high temperatures and low precipitation in July and August, along with the late spring planting date (May 13), are considered to be the primary factors affecting the incomplete germination and emergence during the 2003 growing season. There was a significant amount of new grass seedling emergence detected during the June 30, 2004, evaluation, particularly in the Indian ricegrass, western wheatgrass, big bluegrass, and basin wildrye plots and some new germination of forbs in 2005.

In the single-species plots, the ‘local source’ plants that exhibited superior performance include 9081620 and 9081621 slender wheatgrass, 9081633 big bluegrass, 9081968 western wheatgrass, 9081624 and Washoe Germplasm basin wildrye, 9081628 Indian ricegrass, 9081636 bluebunch wheatgrass, and 9081635 bluegrass. The superior indigenous plant material is being further increased for potential release to the commercial seed industry. Worth noting was the performance of some of the released cultivars such as Pryor and Revenue slender wheatgrass, Rosana western wheatgrass, Rimrock Indian ricegrass, Trailhead basin wildrye, Secar Snake River wheatgrass, and Goldar bluebunch wheatgrass.

The forb/subshrub trial had poor emergence and consequently poor seedling densities with the exception of Open Range Germplasm winterfat. The low densities were most likely the result of the late spring planting that resulted in an insufficient period of cold-moist stratification. An additional problem may have been sowing small-sized seed too deeply. There was also heavy surface erosion on this portion of the trial site.

In the Seed Mixture Trials, the ‘Experimental’ mixes that contained native ‘local source’ were far superior to the ‘Developed’ mixes that consisted of native ‘nonlocal source’ (Upland mix) and introduced cultivars (Waste Management Areas). However, it was estimated that the majority of plants in the Experimental mixtures, both Upland and Waste Management Areas, were 9081620 slender wheatgrass, which was the best overall performer on this particular site.

The tissue analyses show that the heavy metal concentrations in and on the plant tissue sampled from the Stucky Ridge plots were generally within the tolerable limits for both domestic livestock and wildlife.

The overall performance on the Stucky Ridge plots was quite variable, with strips running north and south that had poorer plant vigor and biomass production. The Pryor slender wheatgrass strips between replications (running east and west) exhibited waves of good and poor establishment and performance. Soil samples (0-6 in.) were taken under four plant stands of slender wheatgrass ranging from excellent to very poor in hopes of explaining this variability. It was thought that the incorporation of the amendments may have created strips with varying pH. Soil analysis for pH indicated no difference in pH (all 6.8 to 7.3) under the varying stand of slender wheatgrass. Therefore, this variability is still unexplained.

Appendix A

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IV. SEED PRODUCTION

Appendix A

SEED PRODUCTION

All seed increase activities take place at the USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center near Bridger, Montana. The 140-acre research farm is set up for irrigated seed production of conservation plants for use in Montana and Wyoming. Breeders and Foundation seed of released plant materials are produced at the Bridger PMC for distribution to commercial seed growers through the Foundation Seed programs at Montana State University-Bozeman and the University of Wyoming-Laramie. The PMC is set up to utilize both sprinkler and furrow irrigation. Seed increase blocks or fields are established by direct seeding, transplanting of container-grown stock, and transplanting/establishment of seed production orchards (woody plant material). Special consideration must be given to properly isolate DATC project material from other releases or test material of the same species. Cross-pollinated species are isolated at least 900 feet apart, while self-fertilized species are isolated at least 100 feet apart.

Cultural Practices

Seeding

All seeding is done with a two-row, double-disk planter equipped with depth bands so as to get a uniform 0.25- to 0.5-inch seeding depth. Seed is planted in rows spaced 3 feet apart to accommodate the gated pipe irrigation water delivery system. Depending on the species, planting is done either as a dormant-fall planting (Oct. 15 to Dec. 15) or as an early spring planting (April 1 to May 15). Seed that have a dormancy or after-ripening problem are dormant-fall seeded to get natural stratification.

Transplanting

For small lots of seed that need seed increase, the limited seed supply is planted into Cone-tainers™ and transplanted into fields following 6 months of growth under greenhouse conditions. A mechanical transplanter is used, resulting in uniform 14" within-row spacing. This method has been used on alpine bluegrass (*Poa alpina)*, western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum smithii)*, bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata)*, fuzzy-tongue penstemon (*Penstemon eriantherus*), silverleaf phacelia (*Phacelia hastata*), wooly cinquefoil (*Potentilla hippiana*), and tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa)*.

Woody Transplants

All woody material is container grown and transplanted as 2-0 stock into seed production orchards. In some cases weed-barrier is used to reduce weed establishment within the rows, while in others cultivation is used to keep between row spaced weed-free. Most shrubs will not initiate seed production until the plants are 5-6 years old.

Production Fields

The following table (table 1) shows the species that are presently being grown for seed production. Some of the woody increase orchards have yet to reach the maturity level necessary for seed production, but seed will be harvested once these stands are productive and seed made available to other researchers and potentially released to the commercial plant production industry.

Weed Control

Mechanical weed control, either by cultivation or hand roguing, is the preferred method, but chemical weed control is often necessary. With everything established in rows, between-row cultivation can be easily accomplished with standard cultivators. All chemical applications need to be done prior to flowering or late in the season when plants are going dormant.

Table 1. Seed production fields established at the Bridger PMC for the DATR project.

Common Name	Accession	Release	Field No.	Field size	Established
woolly cinquefoil	9076274		4		spring 2006[1]
fuzzytongue penstemon	9081631	Old Works	20	.30	11/04[2]
silverleaf phacelia	9081632		20	.35	11/04[2]
basin wildrye	9081627	Washoe	20	.80	4/05[2]
basin wildrye	9081627	Washoe	22	.21	4/99[2]
bluebunch wheatgrass	9081636		20	.30	4/05[2]
slender wheatgrass	9081620		20	.35	4/05[2]
big bluegrass	9081633		20	.24	4/05[2]
Indian ricegrass	9081628		22	.14	4/99[2]
western wheatgrass	9081968		22	.10	6/05[1]
common snowberry	9078388	Prospectors	19	.44	5/00[3]
creeping juniper	9081623		23	.60	5/02, 5/03[3]
Wood's rose	9081638		30	.40	7/99[3]
western snowberry	9081639		30	.40	5/00[3]
silver buffaloberry	9081334		30	.60	5/00[3]

1-transplanted cone-tainers
2-established from seed
3-transplanted 2-0 stock

Fertilization

No fertilizers are added to field increase plots until the fall of the first growing season, and then every fall for the life of the stand. A standard mix of 80 lb N/acre and 40 lb P_2O_5/acre is used on most species. Fall applications are usually applied in granular form from September 15 to October 15.

Appendix A

Irrigation

The Bridger area receives an average of only 11.3" of annual precipitation, making it necessary to provide supplemental water to improve seed production. Hand-moved sprinklers are available for plant establishment if natural precipitation is inadequate. Once established, furrow irrigation is generally used. Critical irrigation times are early summer prior to flowering, after pollination as seeds are maturing, and during the fall when seedhead primordia are developing for the following year.

Seed Harvest

Depending on the species, size of stand, and amount of seed, harvesting may be accomplished in a variety of ways. Seed can be hand stripped, direct combined, swathed/combined, or head harvested/dried/combined. Seed is harvested at a 20-30% moisture level and dried to <12% for cleaning and storage. Seed that is officially released and made available to commercial growers must meet standards established by the Montana Seed Growers Association and be analyzed for purity and germination by the Montana Seed Testing Laboratory at Montana State University.

Post-harvest Maintenance

Following harvest, seed production stands are mowed to removed excess biomass and stimulate tillering. The stands are also cultivated prior to fall fertilization and irrigation.

Seed Cleaning

A variety of standard seed cleaning equipment is utilized to clean the DATR seed, both wildland collections and field seed increase. A hammermill is used to further thresh seed or remove appendages. Three different sizes of screen-fanning mills are available for cleaning seed based on size, shape, and weight. An indent cylinder is used to remove round weed seed from elongated grass seed and a small gravity table is used to make separations based on specific gravity.

Seed Storage

All cleaned seed are stored in cloth-mesh bags on shelves in the basement of the office building at the Bridger PMC. The ambient conditions at Bridger are quite good for seed storage, as there is consistently low relative humidity and uniform cool temperatures in the basement environment. Under these conditions, most native seeds will remain viable for up to 10 years.

Seed Accessioning and Inventory

The USDA-NRCS Plant Materials nation-wide network utilizes POMS (Plant Materials Operation and Management System) for the accessioning, inventory, and distribution of all lots of seed and plants handled through the Plant Materials network. All seed is inventoried to the nearest gram (table 2).

Appendix A

Table 2. Seed on hand of Increase Plant Material for DATR project.

Genus & Species	**Common Name**	**Accession**	**Seed on Hand**
			kilograms
Achnatherum hymenoides	Indian ricgrass	9081628	4.81
Agrostis giganteus	redtop	9076276	50.03
Elymus trachycaulus	slender wheatgrass	9081620	44.52
Juniperus horizontalis	creeping juniper	9081623	0.34
Leymus cinereus	basin wildrye	Washoe	28.84
Pascopyrum smithii	western wheatgrass	9081968	0.01
Penstemon eriantherus	fuzzytongue penstemon	Old Works	2.75
Phacelia hastata	silverleaf phacelia	9081632	9.96
Poa secunda	big bluegrass	9081633	4.16
Potentilla hippiana	woolly cinquefoil	9076274	4.80
Pseudoroegneria spicata	bluebunch wheatgrass	9081636	23.71
Rosa woodsii	Wood's rose	9081638	0.56
Shepherdia argentea	silver buffaloberry	9081334	0.00
Symphoricarpos albus	common snowberry	Prospectors	0.47
Symphoricarpos occidentalis	western snowberry	9081639	0.10

V. RELEASES

Copperhead germplasm slender wheatgrass

Appendix A

PLANT RELEASES

The seed and plants that are available to reclamationists are usually cultivar (cultivated varieties) releases from universities, USDA Plant Material Centers, USDA Agricultural Research Service, or private plant breeders. To be released as a cultivar, the germplasm must be extensively tested, reviewing primary traits through multiple generations, and field testing to determine range of adaptability. This process takes at least 10 years with herbaceous plant material and can take 20 or more years for woody plants. Other sources of native plants are wildland collections and pre-damage plant salvage.

In recent years, the demand for native, indigenous plant material has resulted in the development of an alternate, quicker mechanism for the release of plant materials known as Pre-Varietal Release. Through this process plant propagules can be released to the commercial seed and nursery industries in a more timely manner, but at the expense of extensive field testing. Germplasm is still managed through the Certified seed agencies, maintaining the same quality, purity, and germination standards of Cultivar releases. There are three categories of Pre-Varietal releases:

<u>Source-Identified</u>—With this classification, a person can locate and collect seed from a specific native site and have the seed certified by source only. A representative from a seed certification agency must inspect the collection site prior to harvest, documenting the identity of the species, elevation, latitude/longitude, and associated species. The collector can certify the seed as being from a particular source and of a standard quality, and selling the seed directly to a customer. The collector can also take that seed and establish seed production fields, raising up to two generations past the original collection. This product must be included in a seed certification program to be able to certify the seed as 'Source Identified' germplasm. Through this process, seed can be certified the year of collection or in 2 years when the seed increase fields begin to produce.

<u>Selected</u>—This category is for plant breeders who assemble and evaluate multiple collections of a species, making a selection of the superior accession, or bulk or cross-pollinate the superior accessions. This release process can take as few as 5 years, but can claim only that one accession or bulk of accessions has been found to be superior for the conditions under which it was tested. No field testing or the testing of progeny is required.

<u>Tested</u>—If the progeny of a superior germplasm is tested to make sure that the desired traits continue to manifest themselves in subsequent generations, the germplasm qualifies to be released as a Tested germplasm. This process can take 6-8 years in herbaceous plant material and considerably longer with woody plants. The only difference between Tested and Cultivar releases is the extensive field testing of a Cultivar.

Appendix A

The Pre-Varietal release mechanism has been used extensively on native plant materials that are not readily available on the commercial market, either from seed growers, nurseries, or wildland collectors. Through this process native plant material can be placed into the commercial seed and nursery industry sooner, but with limited information on range of adaptation, ease of establishment in various climate and edaphic conditions, and longevity.

DATR Project Releases

The Conservation Districts of Montana and Wyoming own the land and facilities at the Bridger Plant Materials Center and lease to the USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service. The USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center has been in operation since 1959 and has established a cooperative relationship with the Agricultural Experiment Station network of Montana State University-Bozeman (MSU) and the University of Wyoming-Laramie (U of W). The Plant Materials Center has experience in the release of conservation plants, both introduced and native, in cooperation with MSU and U of W. Breeders and Foundation seed is produced at the Bridger PMC, making Foundation seed available to the commercial seed industry for the production of Certified seed. In the case of Pre-Varietal releases, the Bridger PMC produces G_1 (Generation 1) seed for distribution to growers who will produce G_2 and G_3 under the Certified Seed Program. Once a release is made, the releasing agency is responsible for maintaining a supply of G_1 (Pre-Varietal release) or Foundation (Cultivar release) seed for as long as seed/plants of the release are in demand.

The DATR project has identified numerous plants (grasses, forbs, shrubs, and trees) that exhibit tolerance of acidic and metaliferous soil conditions and have the potential for use by reclamationists in restoration efforts of severely impacted sites. Thus far the DATRproject has been instrumental in the release of germplasm of three plants;

Washoe Selected germplasm basin wildrye (*Leymus cinereus*)
Old Works Source Identified germplasm fuzzy-tongue penstemon (*Penstemon eriantherus*)
Prospectors Selected germplasm common snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*)

Information brochures have been published on these three releases and are distributed to potential seed growers and potential seed-purchasing customers. G_1 (Foundation quality) seed of Washoe basin wildrye has been distributed to two commercial seed growers in Montana, and seed of Old Works fuzzy-tongue penstemon has been distributed to one grower in Washington and one grower in Idaho. No growers have yet shown interest in the production of Prospectors common snowberry.

During the winter of 2006 **Copperhead** Selected class germplasm slender wheatgrass (9081620) will be submitted for release consideration to the Variety Release committee at Montana State University and the Pure Seed Committee at the University of Wyoming. This accession of slender wheatgrass has performed exceptionally well on the amended Stucky Ridge Trial site. If the release is successful G_1 seed will be available to commercial growers in the spring of 2006.

The DATR Project has established seed increase fields of all plant species that have exhibited superior establishment and performance in field test plantings in the Anaconda vicinity on smelter and mining-impacted sites. The USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center, in cooperation with the Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District, plans to continue releasing superior plant materials that have exhibited tolerance of acid/heavy metal-contaminated sites. Some of the potential releases are as follows:

9081620 slender wheatgrass (*Elymus trachycaulus*)
9081968 western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum smithii*)
9081636 bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*)
9081633 big bluegrass (*Poa secunda*)
9081628 Indian ricegrass (*Achnatherum hymnoides*)
9081619 redtop (*Agrostis gigantea*)
9081632 silverleaf phacelia (*Phacelia hastata*)
9076274 wooly conquifoil (*Potentilla hippiana*)
9078675 stiffstem aster (*Symphyotrichum chilensis*)
9081334 silver buffaloberry (*Shepherdia argentea*)
9081638 Woods rose (*Rosa woodsii*)
9081623 horizontal juniper (*Juniperus horizontalis*).

Plant materials that are being considered for release in FY2007 are 9081632 silverleaf phacelia and 9081633 big bluegrass. Other releases within the next three years include 9081968 western wheatgrass, 9081636 bluebunch wheatgrass, and 9081638 Woods rose.