

USDA Forest Service Botany in the News

Chippewa National Forest - Native Woody Seed Collection

Who (partners): Leech Lake Band of Ojibway

What (species): *Crataegus* spp. /hawthorn, *Larix laricina*/eastern larch, *Quercus* spp. /oak, *Thuja occidentalis* /northern white cedar

When: summer and fall 2006

Where: Region 9, northern Minnesota

How: Funding was obligated via a contract with the Leech Lake Band of the Ojibway. The intent was to have tribal members gather fruit from the designated native woody plant species. Quantities of most fruits in seed zone 1 were severely limited in FY 2006 due to a major drought. Never-the-less, tribal members gathered: 342 lbs. of hawthorn, 25 bushels of larch cones, 5 ½ bushels of mixed acorns, and 11 ¼ bushels of white cedar cones. The contract is scheduled to be completed in sometime during the fall of 2008. Funding for this project was the US Forest Service Native Plant Materials Earmark of 2006.

Why: This project was initiated to increase the Chippewa's seed bank for several woody species stored at the USFS J.W. Toumey Nursery. Target species were those not typically used for reforestation purposes, or if used for reforestations were obtained only with great difficulty.

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High bush cranberry one of the species collected by tribal members.



Processed seed that is ready for use in revegetation projects by the Chippewa NF.