



A Web-Based
Tool for
Selecting
Conservation
Plants

<http://plants.usda.gov>

VegSpec Sponsors

- Army Corps of Engineers:
 - Dick Gebhart, CERL, Champaign, IL
- Bureau of Land Management:
 - Mike Pellant, Great Basin Restoration Initiative, Boise, ID
- Natural Resources Conservation Service:
 - Andy Mason, Ecological Sciences Division, Washington, DC
- U.S. Geological Survey:
 - David Pyke, Forest & Rangeland Ecosystem Sciences Center, Corvallis, OR

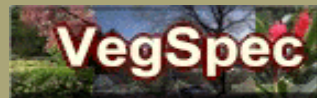


Designed to provide the state office with a list of plants, primarily alternative native species, that could be considered for integration into the traditional FOTG list



Creating Vegetative Designs
VegSpec

- Assists in creating vegetative practice designs for a variety of sites and natural resource conservation problems via multiple paths
- Information for 2,300+ species and cultivars



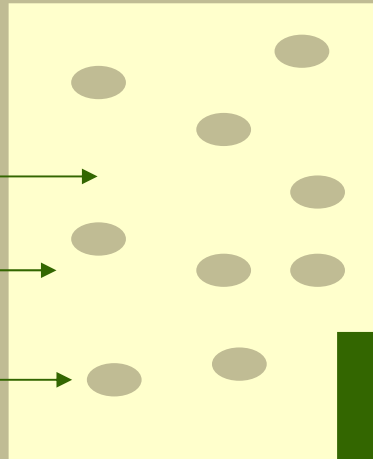
Soil and Climate Attribute Filters

Attributes of
2300+ Plant
Species and
Cultivars

Soil Map
Unit Filter

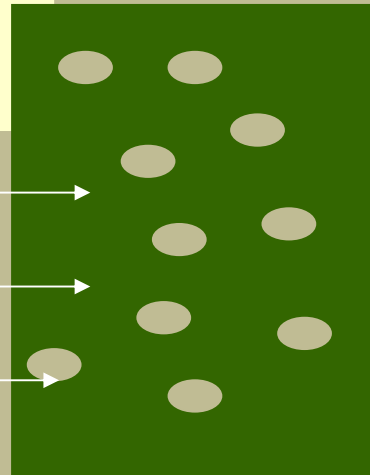


pH →
Texture →
etc. →



Climate
Station Filter

Rainfall →
Frost date →
etc. →



List of Plants
Adapted to
Selected Soil
and Climate

≈ 200 Plants

List of Plants
Adapted to
Selected Soil
and Climate

≈ 200 Plants

Tree/Shrub Planting Filter

Tree



Shrub

Wildlife Wetland Habitat Filter

Waterfowl Food Filter

Obligate Wetland Plant

Facultative Wetland Plant

Fruit/Seed Abundant

Fruit/Seed Persistent



List of Plants

≈ 35 Plants



List of Potential Plants:

Selected by the application of filters

≈ 35 Plants

Creating Vegetative Designs
VegSpec

User chooses plants from
list of potential plants

User is the final filter



List of User Selected Plants:

Plants the user plans to use for this
conservation planting

≈ 10 Plants

Plant Characteristics

- These data support VegSpec
- Compiled for 2,300+ conservation plant species
- 100 characteristics
- Access from the PLANTS Home Page and the Advanced Search

Characteristics	
<small>About PLANTS Characteristics Conservation Plant Characteristics Data Definitions PLANTS Characteristics species list</small>	
Conservation Plant Characteristics	
<i>Achnatherum hymenoides</i> (Roemer & J.A. Schultes) Barkworth Indian ricegrass ACHY	
Summary	
Duration	Perennial
Growth Habit	Graminoid
U.S. Nativity	Native to U.S.
Federal T/E Status	
National Wetland Indicator	
Morphology/Physiology	
Active Growth Period	Spring, Summer, Fall
After Harvest Regrowth Rate	Moderate
Bloat	None
C:N Ratio	Medium
Coppice Potential	No
Fall Conspicuous	No
Fire Resistant	No
Flower Color	Yellow
Flower Conspicuous	No
Foliage Color	Green
Foliage Porosity Summer	Moderate
Foliage Porosity Winter	Porous
Foliage Texture	Medium
Fruit/Seed Color	Brown
Fruit/Seed Conspicuous	No
Growth Form	Bunch
Growth Rate	Moderate
Height at 20 Years, Maximum (feet)	
Height, Mature (feet)	2
Known Allelopath	No
Leaf Retention	No
Lifespan	Moderate

An Interagency Collaboration



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**



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