

Project 08S211
Annual Report – December 2001
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Rocky Mountain National Park
Cooperative Plant Materials Agreement

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INTRODUCTION

This progress report covers the 2000 activities of the Upper Colorado Environmental Plant Center (UCEPC), Meeker, Colorado, with respect to Rocky Mountain Plant Material Agreement IA-1520-2-9001 that began in 1999. It addresses the primary activities of seed collection and conditioning, and seed production.

CONTRACT SPECIES EAST SIDE

Common Name	Scientific Name	Symbol	Accn. #
Grasses:			
Mountain muhly	<i>Muhlenbergia montana</i>	MOMU	9070957
Sleepygrass	<i>Stipa robusta</i>	STVI	9070958
Junegrass	<i>Koeleria cristata</i>	KOCR	9070962

SEED PRODUCTION ON EAST SIDE SPECIES

A. Mountain muhly

- 1) Established - experimental 6000 square foot plot planted at Headquarters in 1997
Production and cleaned seed weights

.32 g	on	9-02-1998
1.00 lb	on	9-09-1999
.94 g	on	8-29-2000
2.90 lb	on	8-27-2001

- 6, 2) Planted .835 of an acre in Field 5A on June 20, 1999 and was interseeded on September 2000. Emergence has been poor. Small amounts of seed were harvested this year.

B. Sleepygrass

Established - .5 acre in Field 10 in 1998. Two rows were added with the Planet Jr. on June 9, 1999. The contract goal was .2 acre but since the emergence was sporadic we have maintained the field size at .5 acre

Production	.50 lb	on	9-14-1999
	47.00 lb	on	7-28-2000
	64.00 lb	on	7-30-2001

C. Junegrass

Field to be established in 2002

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 TARGETED SEED PRODUCTION SCHEDULE (as of 2000)**

Species	Acreage	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Mountain muhly	.5	Maintain	Harvest	Harvest	Remove	
Sleepygrass	.2	Harvest	Remove			
Junegrass	.2			Establish	Harvest	Harvest

COLLECTION INFORMATION

The following material was received from RMNP collectors in 2001 for the new east side project:

Species	Harvested	Uncleaned Weight	Cleaned Weight
Junegrass	8-22-01	2010 g	80 g

The total amount of cleaned seed from the 1999, 2000, and 2001 Park collections are 171 grams.

Some references state there are approximately 4000 seeds per gram, but can have low viability. The Native Seed Production Manual states that Junegrass has 2,315,000 seeds per pound.

SEED SHIPMENTS

One seed shipment was sent out on May 7th. See attached Form 596.

DISCUSSION

Project No. 08S211: Russ Haas, NPS National Advisor, visited us this year to discuss the status of the contract. Karl Cordova has been the contact person in 2001 since Mary Kay Watry, Resource Operations Supervisor, has taken over the facilitation of the Cooperative Agreement.

Precipitation has been the lowest in years. Approximately four inches lower than normal. *Stipa robusta* was the best producer this year. We have received approval to continue field production from RMNP. Emergence on the reseeding of the .8 acre field of Mountain muhly did poorly, so the seed production schedule needs to be modified. Perhaps we could arrange a meeting to do this.

In March, Mary Kay expressed interest in adjusting the contract to keep the Mountain Muhly in production for several more years. Karl was interested in having us grow some wetland species for Glacier Creek Stables, which is a two-acre revegetation project. An assessment at the park is under progress to determine desired species.