'CURLEW' DRUMMOND WILLOW

Scientific Name: Salix drummondiana Barratt EX Hook.

Common Name: Drummond willow Cultivar Name: 'Curlew' (9020059) Selected By: Pullman PMC, USDA-NRCS

Release Cooperators: USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service, The University of Idaho-AES, Washington State University-ARC, Oregon State University-AES

Release Date: 1993, Public Release

COLD HARDINESS ZONE (USDA, 1990): 5a,5b,6a and 6b.

ORIGIN: 'Curlew' Drummond willow is a deciduous shrub originating from native plants growing on a riparian site near the Curlew River, Ferry County, Washington at an elevation of 2135 feet.

DESCRIPTION: Mature Plant height is 9 feet and canopy width is 15 feet at Pullman, Washington. 'Curlew' drummond willow is relatively low growing with striking yellow to yellow-orange stems, which may provide appeal for ornamental use. The leaves are simple, entire, alternate and average four inches long, 7/8 inch wide. The leaves are green on the upper surface with silvery-velvety pubescence on the underside. Staminate and pistillate catkins appear in the spring before or with the first leaves. Mature plant height is 12 feet and canopy width is 15 feet at Pullman, Washington.

DISEASE AND INSECT PROBLEMS: No disease or pest of this willow has been noted by the PMC. Willow pollen is an important food source in the spring for honeybees.

SEED PRODUCTION: Mackenzie willow will establish naturally by seed, however, the more common way is by hardwood cuttings taken in late winter. Harwood cuttings of 'Curlew' drummond willow are available in limited quantities for increase to growers and nurseries from the Pullman Plant Materials Center.

SEEDING RECOMMENDATIONS: 'Curlew' drummond willow grows in moist sands and gravel, with minor inclusions of sandy loam, and requires a minimum of 20 to 25 inches annual precipitation.

CONSERVATION USES: 'Curlew' is used in conservation plantings for streambank stabilization, riparian site restoration, landscaping, wildlife habitat, and shelterbelts. Other uses are for erosion control and promotion of native plant diversity and ornamental purposes.

AVAILABILITY: For additional information contact: Wayne Crowder, Soil Conservationist, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Pullman Plant Materials Center (509) 335-7376 or email crowder@wsu.edu.