



# Collecting Wildland Seed

- Locate sites
- Permits
- Correct species identification
- Contract seed collectors
- Seed provided for contract grows









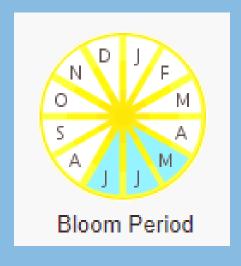
## **Collection Site Documentation**

- Location coordinates
- Elevation
- Soils
- Associated vegetation
- Aspect and exposure
- Access/permission



### Seed Collection Time Windows

- Cool season grasses
  - needle grasses, wildryes, melics, etc.
  - Spring and early summer
- Warm season grasses
  - deer grass, three awns, alkali Sacaton, salt grass
  - Late summer and fall
- Native wildflowers
  - Varies with species and locations
- Calflora lists flowering periods of native species



## Field Placement

- Complicated endeavor
- Cross-contamination
  - Distance
  - Prevailing winds
  - Barriers (hedgerows)
  - Crop history
  - Time
- Grasses/forbs
- Selfing vs crossing sp.
- Cal. Crop Improve. Ass.
- Field size considerations
- Weed history



## **Planting Native Ecotypes**

- Most species planted in fall via seed drill
- Plug planting when stock seed is limited
- Spring planting possible with wildflowers and plugs





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# **Weed Control**









# Determining Seed Maturity/ Harvest Windrows

- Many considerations
- Harvest too early seed is not viable
- Harvest too late and seed will have shattered



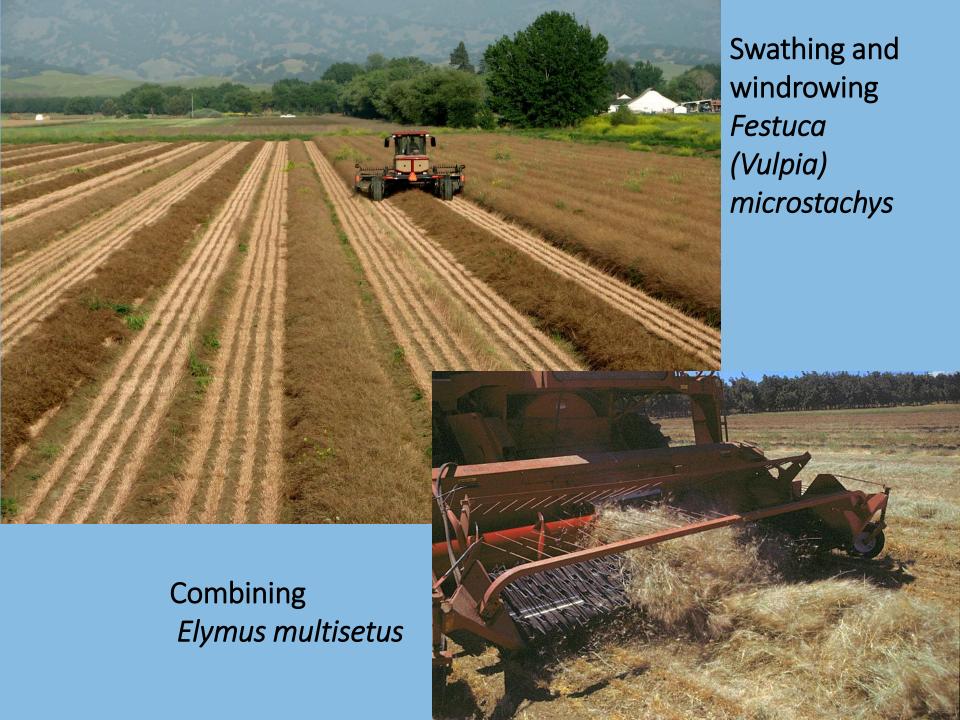


# Harvesting Techniques

- Mechanical strippers
  - Tractor mounted strippers (Flailvac)
- Cutting whole plants or culms and allowing to dry or cure
  - Swather







#### Hand harvesting milkweed



#### Milkweed pods revealing seeds



#### Hand harvesting milkweed



#### Milkweed pods revealing seeds



## Sickle Bar Harvest for Tar Plants

Resins clogged swather - sickle bar mower work around







# Curing and drying

- Dried on tarps until dry (less than 10% moisture)
- If a large amount of seed, turn on a regular basis for even and rapid drying



# **Seed Cleaning**

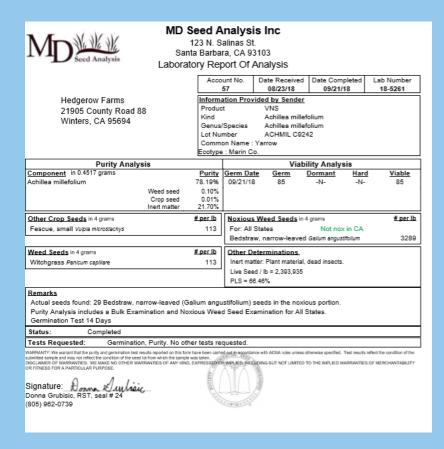








#### • Purity, Other Crop, Weed Seed, Germination



# Seed Storage

- Insulated storage warehouse
  - Breathable packaging
  - Away from:
    - Heat
    - Moisture
    - Rodents
    - Insects
- Shelf life varies by species
  - Hard seed usually longest
  - Grasses usually 3-6 years
- Testing within 8,12,15 or months



# Native Seed Species and Ecotypes Commercial Availability

Many species and ecotypes available at Hedgerow Farms

www.hedgerowfarms.com



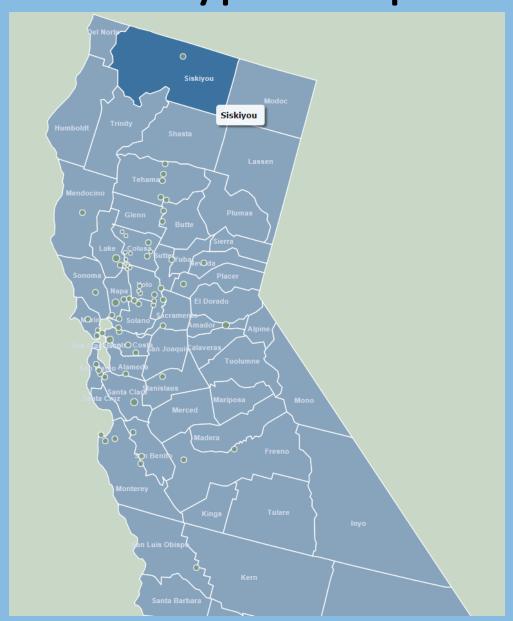
# Sortable Database by Species Ecotypes/origins

Botanical Name \$	Common Name \$	Ecotype/Origin \$	General Seed Availability \$	General Plug Availability \$	Plant Type \$	Life Cycle ‡
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Butte County: Llano Seco Ranch	ask	ask	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Contra Costa County: Los Vaqueros Watershed	yes	ask	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Marin County: Bodega Bay	ask	ask	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Marin County: Nicasio	yes	ask	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Marin County: Oak Hill Park	ask	ask	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Napa County: Napa/Sonoma Marsh	yes	ask	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Sacramento County: Cosumnes River	yes	yes	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	San Benito County: Hwy 101	ask	ask	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	San Benito County: Pinnacles Nat. Park	yes	ask	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	San Mateo County: Crystal Springs Reserve	ask	ask	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Santa Clara County: Arastradero Preserve	yes	yes	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Solano County: Benicia	yes	ask	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Solano County: Jepson Prairie	ask	ask	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Tehama County: Inks Creek	yes	yes	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Nevada County: Grass Valley	ask	ask	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Tehama County: NW of Red Bluff, NRCS release	yes	ask	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Yolo County: Fiske Creek	yes	yes	Grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Yolo County: Stone Ranch	yes	yes	Grass	perennial

# Species by County

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Botanical Name \$	Common Name \$	Ecotype/Origin \$	General Seed Availability \$	General Plug Availability \$	Plant Type \$	Life Cycle \$
Deschampsia danthonioides	annual hairgrass	Yolo County: North of Winters	ask	ask	grass	annual
Distichlis spicata	salt grass	Yolo County: Road 102	no	yes	grass	perennial
Elymus glaucus	blue wildrye	Yolo County: "Anderson"	yes	yes	grass	perennial
Elymus glaucus	blue wildrye	Yolo County: Yolo Bypass	yes	yes	grass	perennial
Elymus multisetus	big squirreltail	Yolo County: Lynch Creek	ask	ask	grass	perennial
Elymus trachycaulus	slender wheatgrass	Yolo County: Willow Slough	yes	ask	grass	perennial
Elymus (Leymus) triticoides	creeping wildrye/ beardless wild rye	Yolo County: Yolo Bypass	yes	yes	grass	perennial
Elymus (Leymus) triticoides	creeping wildrye/ beardless wild rye	Yolo County: Yolo Bypass-Short Variety	no	ask	grass	perennial
Festuca (Vulpia) microstachys	small fescue/ three weeks fescue	Yolo County: Fiske Creek	yes	ask	grass	annual
Hordeum brachyantherum	meadow barley	Solano/Yolo County: Glide Ranch	yes	yes	grass	perennial
Hordeum brachyantherum	meadow barley	Yolo County: Yolo Bypass	yes	yes	grass	perennial
Hordeum depressum	alkali barley	Yolo County: Davis Grasslands	yes	ask	grass	annual
Leersia oryzoides	rice cutgrass	Yolo County: Putah Creek Watershed	no	ask	grass	perennial
Melica californica	California oniongrass	Yolo County: Fiske Creek	yes	yes	grass	perennial
Poa secunda ssp secunda	one sided blue grass	Yolo County: Upper Fiske Creek	yes	yes	grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) lepida	foothill needle grass	Yolo County: Stone Ranch	ask	yes	grass	perennial
Stipa (Nassella) pulchra	purple needle grass	Yolo County: Fiske Creek	yes	yes	grass	perennial

# **Ecotypes Map**



# Contract Growing / Seed Increases

- Stock seed tested
- Wildland stock seed provided
- Grow outs to maintain genetics
- Seed planted directly in field (best) or grown out in plugs and installed
- Planting, irrigation, fertilization,
  Weed control, cleaning, testing
- Minimum ½ acre best
- All seed produced is clients



## Contract Growing / Seed Increases

- Frequent means of getting new species and ecotypes to market
- Can be used as a tool to mitigate impacts to special status plant species
- Hedgerow currently has more than 25 items under contract



### **Native Grass Straw**

- Harvested from our fields
- Great for erosion control
- Noxious weed free
- Generally contains native grass seed



