- A SURVEY OF NATIVE SEED MARKETS;
  - EMERGING MARKETS;
  - CHALLENGES ON THE FARM;
  - LET'S MOVE-ON, TOGETHER



ED S KLEINER
COMSTOCK SEED LLC
917 HWY 88
GARDNERVILLE, NV 89460
775-265-0090
ed@comstockseed.com





## **SURVEY OF NATIVE SEED MARKETS**

## SEED MARKETS ARE DIVERSE AND GROWING

FEDERAL SEED AGENCIES FIRE SEEDINGS CURRENTLY, TAMERACK, CALDOR, MOSQUITO, DIXIE, GROZIER BLM REGIONAL PURCHASING

USFS, USFWS, NRCS, USGS RANGELAND RESTORATION IN-HOUSE CUSTOM COLLECTIONS MILITARY DIRECT OR VIA CONTRACTORS NAS, EDWARDS, NELLIS

**MINING** 

UTILITY CORRIDORS TUSCARORA SOUTHWEST INTERTIE GREENLINKS

**GEOTHERMAL ENERGY** 

**SOLAR ENERGY PV WIND** 

**SEED COMPANIES** 

STATE AGENCIES HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS NDOT CALTRANS

CITIES, COUNTIES

NGO'S NATURE CONSERVANCY, CAL DEER, AMERICAN RIVERS, FEATHER RIVER LAND TRUST,

HIGH DESERT PARTNERSHIP, WALKER BASIN CONSERVANCY, CALIFORNIA TAHOE CONSERVANCY REGIONAL AGENCIES TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY,

LOS ANGELES DEPT OF WATER AND POWER SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY

**SKI RESORTS** TAHOE REGION, SOUTHERN SIERRAS, ROCKIES

GOLF COURSES ROUGHS, FLOWERS, TURF ALTERNATIVES; CONVERSIONS

HOMEOWNERS NATURAL and DROUGHT TOLERANT LANDSCAPE ALTERNATIVES

LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SERVICES,

NV ENVIRONMENTAL, KELLY EROSION CONTROL, SOIL TECH, MOANA POST FIRE SEEDINGS

**BUILDERS COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIA** 

LANDSCAPE DESIGN INTERPRETIVE GARDENS

ENGINEERING FIRMS CH2MHILL, Q&D, AECOM, RESOURCE CONCEPTS

PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS City, County, Regional, State, National

AGRICULTURE TRADITIONAL AND DRYLAND PASTURE ALTERNATIVES HEDGEROWS

WILDLIFE REFUGES



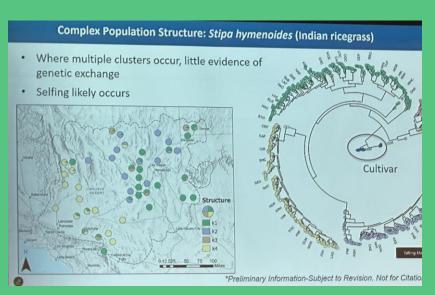
**Caldor Fire** 

## **Burns Oregon**



# The big picture transcending the restoration seed markets

# Matching genetics to project ecotypes matter



## Michigan State University research paper

## **Co-author Shin-Han Shiu**

## AI use in tracking scientific research in the field of genetics

Why it matters: AI is often touted as a tool to help scientists in a key aspect of their work: keeping up with a deluge of scientific papers.

There are tens of thousands of papers published on different topics, their findings described in an exacting and nuanced language that can require expert proficiency to decipher.

"What they found: Using machine learning and language algorithms to analyze nearly 422,000 abstracts of plant science papers, they found that evolution in the field of plant biology is often driven by technology that matures or reduces in cost.

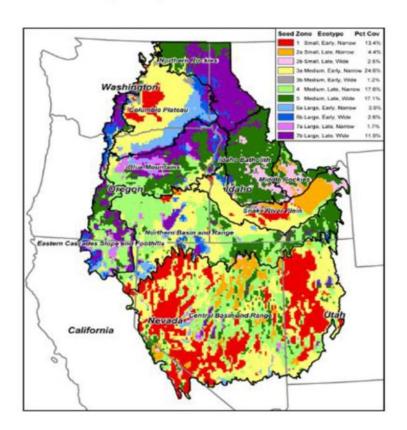
That was seen in a few major transitions in the field in the early 1980s as techniques for cloning genes became more widely used and a decade later as the tools for developing mutant plants improved, they write in PLoS Biology today.

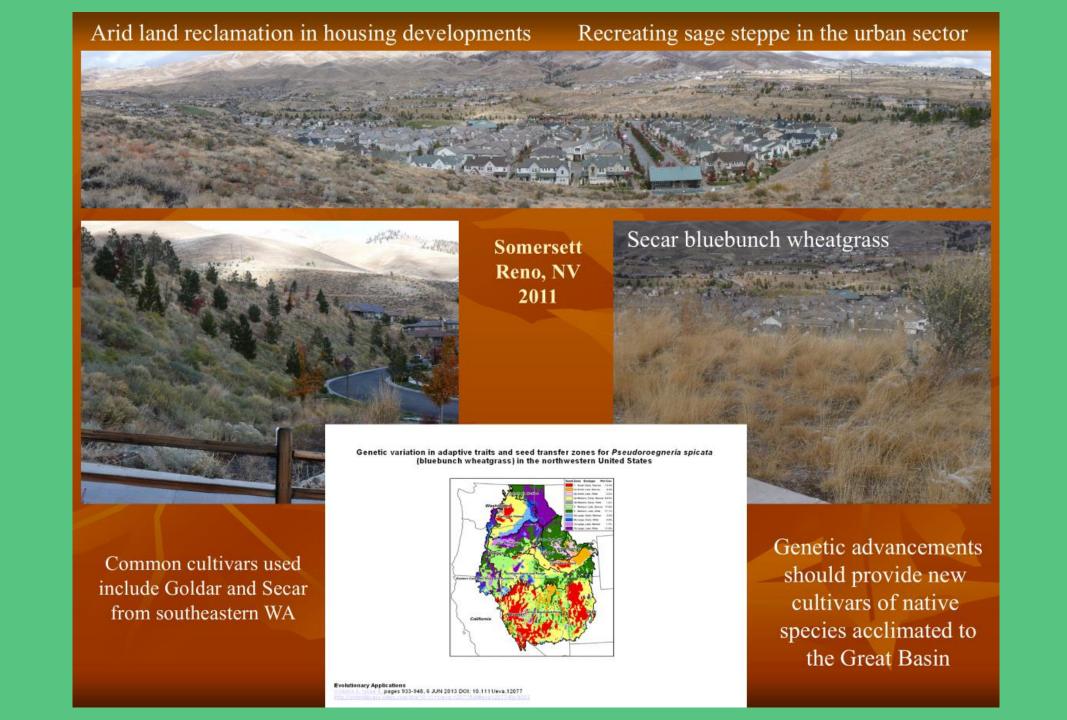
The most dramatic shift was in the early 2000s, when genome sequencing became less costly.

Regional analysis of Bluebunch wheatgrass across the intermountain west has yielded three distinct varieties with differing morphological and temporal qualities.

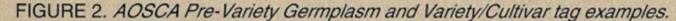
These qualities reflect evolution under varying microhabitat conditions

Genetic variation in adaptive traits and seed transfer zones for *Pseudoroegneria spicata* (bluebunch wheatgrass) in the northwestern United States

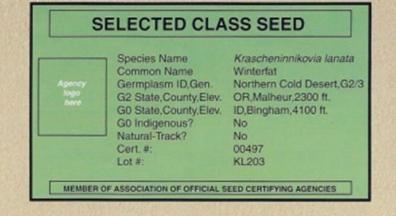


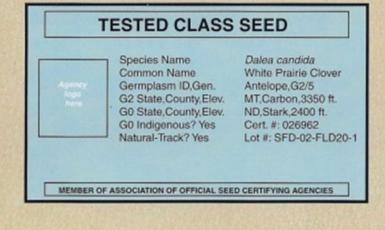


# Certified seed sourcing from state departments of agriculture

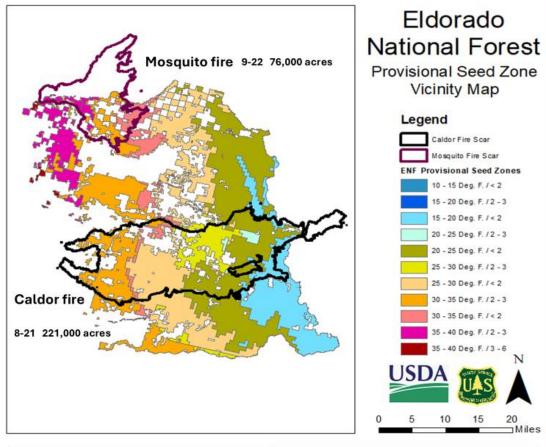


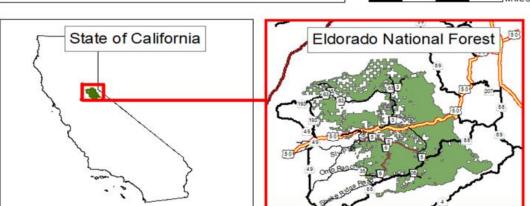










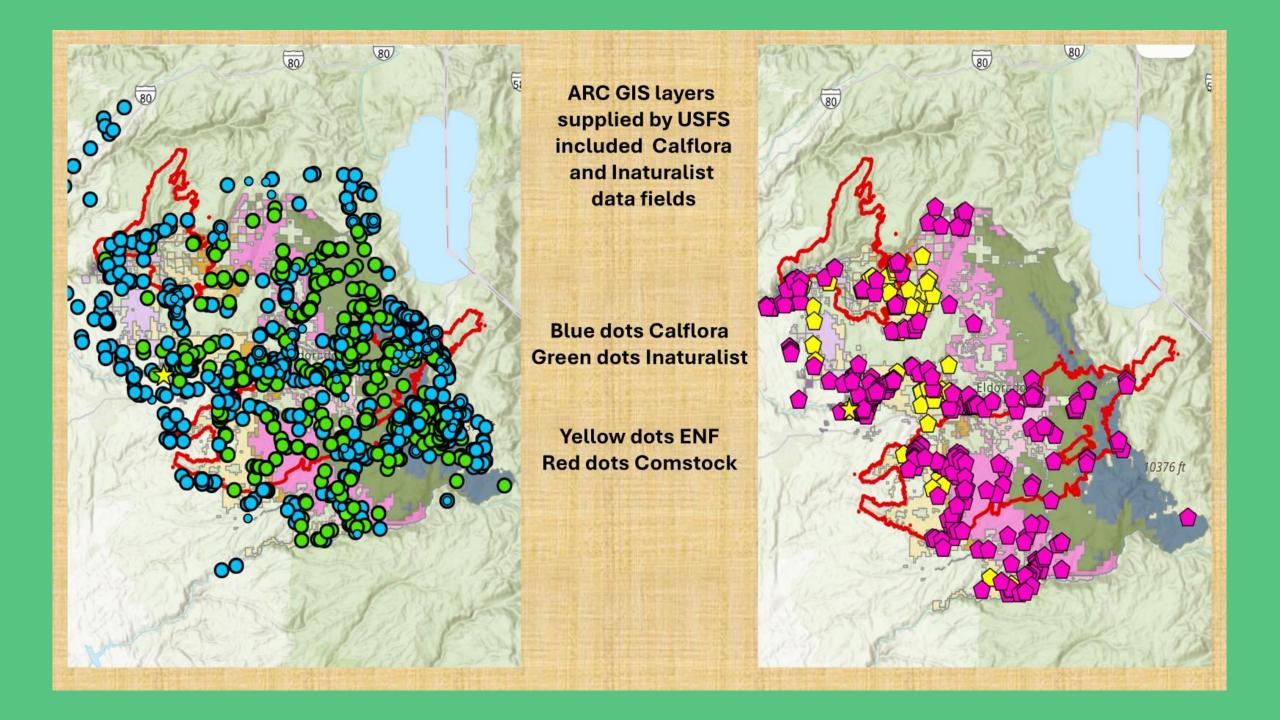


The Eldorado National Forest issued a solicitation for a two-year seed collection contract in the spring of 2024

Comstock Seed was awarded the contract

The 11 PSZ parameters include minimum winter temperatures and aridity and follow elevational gradients between the Sierra crest and the foothills at elevations between 2500'and 8000'

35 SPECIES 108 COLLECTIONS 233 COLLECTION SITES TO DATE 350 CLEAN LBS ORDERED





## Greenlink North expected to be on-line by 12-28



Greenlink West expected to be on-line by 5-27



SWIP tower installation

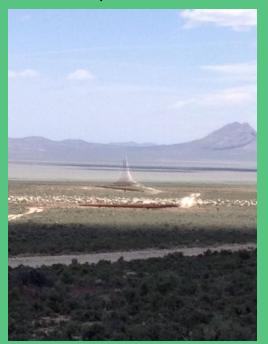
# Midpoint Substation OREGON Franklin Bear Lake Washoe Pershing Eureka Churchill Thirtymile Substation INSET Crystal Substation Harry Allen Substation ARIZONA Mead Substation Marketplace Substation McCullough Eldorado

# NV Energy Southwest Intertie Project

16 seed blends, reflecting the various ecotypes along the utility corridor

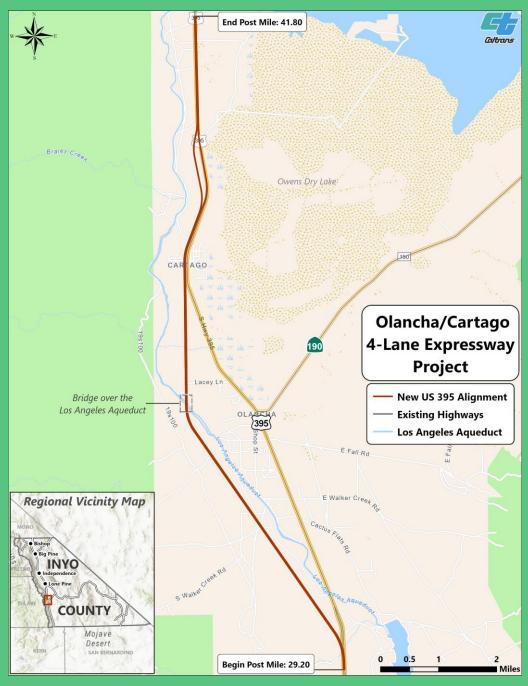
Great Basin woodland PJ
Great Basin sagebrush
Great Basin salt desert shrub
GB woodland grass shrub
Mojave grass shrub flower

18,483 pls lbs of seed









# Caltrans Olancha Project

Caltrans required
locally sourced
seed collections
from along the eastern
Sierra front.
This project required
3555.4 PLS lbs of
seed collected over
two years.





Species	PLS LBS
Ambrosia acanthicarpa	250
Artemisia tridentata	50
Atriplex canescens	50
Chrysothamnus nauseosus	125
Distichlis spicata stricta	125
Elymus elymoides native	500
Ephedra nevadensis	250
Eriogonum fasciculatum	125
Juncus balticus	31.2
Larrea tridentata	500
Malacothrix glabrata	50
Rosa woodsii	312
Scirpus maritimus	156
Sporobolus airiodes	31.2
Stipa hymenoides	500
Stipa hymenoides	
Stipa hymenoides	
Stipa speciosa	500

# THE SUPPLY SIDE

**FARM PRODUCTION NATIVE SEED** 









Seed Cleaning Testing























One acre Great Basin Wildrye generated \$6500 in sales

# Comstock Farm sales Hay and Seed 2018



# **Great Basin Wildrye establishment**



10-11 with weeds 1<sup>st</sup> year growth



Witchgrass Panicum

11-11 burnt



3-12



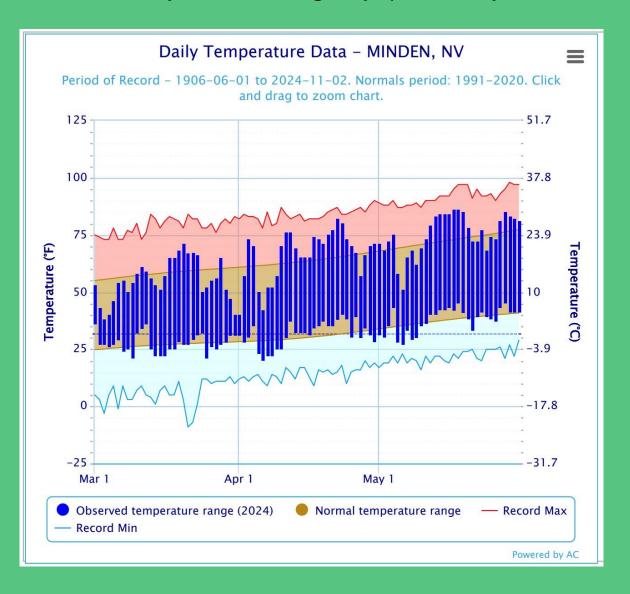
5-14



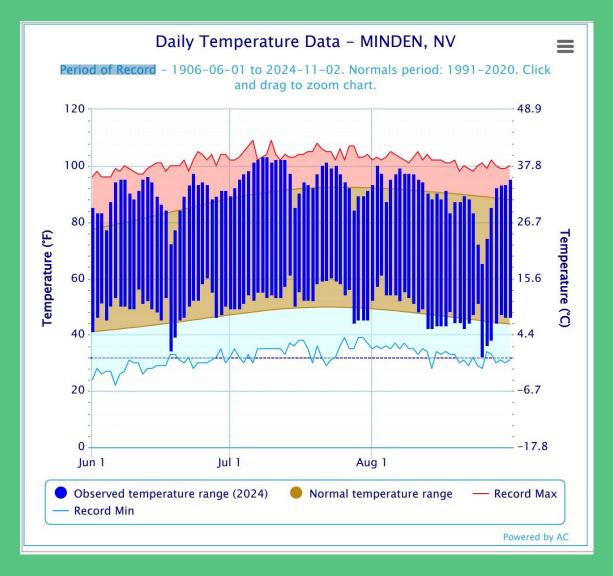
June 2024



## 16 days below freezing early April into May



## June 18<sup>th</sup> freeze; Comstock Farm is colder than Minden Last irrigation July 1; early July, 8 days above 100 degrees



Normal hay production 25-30 tons; 2024 7 tons; native seed production down 60% Normal hay processing fee, \$4-6.00/bale; 2024 \$16/bale

### CStwP 2017-1 Contract Map # 8193271707M

Date: 9/12/2017

Customer(s): EDGAR S KLEINER
District: CARSON VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Field Office: MINDEN SERVICE CENTER Agency: USDA - NRCS

Approximate Acres: 43.7 Legal Description: Farm 363, Tract 395, Fields 1 - 10 Assisted By: JIM GIFFORD State and County: Douglas County, Nevada

T12N R20E Section 1



Prepared with assistance from USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

#### Legend

### Practices (polygons)

<all other values>

#### Practice code, notes

- 315, Herbaceous Weed Control: Chemical Spot Treatment 13.3 acres CIN 1 (2018)
- 340, Cover Crop: Basic Organic/Non-Organic Winter Kill 0.6 acres CIN 2 (2018)
- E340106Z3, Intensive Cover Cropping (orchard/vineyard floor) to increase soil health and OM CIN 3 (2018)

  CStwP\_Plan\_2017-1



## **NRCS Field designations at Comstock Farm**

High tunnel installation 2010

Fields 1,3,4 Maintained hay fields; Regenerative seeding 10-22

Field 2,10 Maintains wetlands; physical and chemical treatments

Field 3 NRCS Fallow field 2022

Field 5 Experimental native seed production fields

Great Basin wildrye, Penstemons, Sulfur buckwheat

Blue area NRCS green manure field 2017-19

NRCS Monarch seeding 2021-

Regenerative seeding 1-24

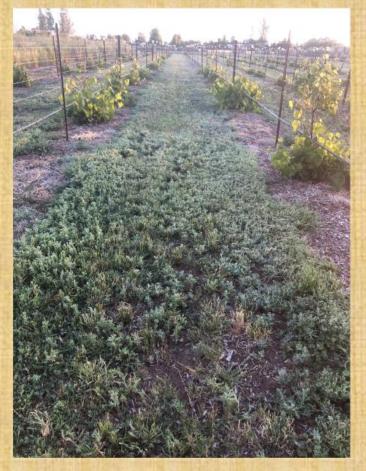
Field 6 Vineyard with NRCS groundcover seeding 11-18

Future designation 2022 Hedgerow development planted along Hwy 88; 30' width Wildrye field expansion beginning fall 2024

Vineyard cover crop seeding 11-18

# **NRCS** groundcover establishment

Annual weeds 6-19



Grass groundcover
5-23
Sheep and Hard Fescue
and remnant Tall fescue





# NRCS Green manure cover crop 7-19



**DAIKON RADISH** 

BILL TO: COMSTOCK FARM 917 STATE ROUTE 88

GARDNERVILLE, NV 8

GARDNERVILLE, NV 89460

PO Number: seeded daikon radish 5-2-18 2 lb

Blnd No	Qua	mtity	Lot Number	Description				
	PLS	Bulk	LOI Number					
1		12.00	TS991520	CEREAL RYE FALL V.N.S				
1	1 12.00		Y16-16-CO-4	CEREAL OATS SPRING VNS				
1		8.40	B1-16-52V	VETCH, HAIRY				
1		6.00	17-0024	CLOVER ALSIKE				
1		12.00	L106-17-5GC	RYEGRASS ANNUAL GULF				
	47.24	E0.40	-					



# Pollinator garden; seeded 12-21

Comstock Seed

DATE OF QUOTE: December 7, 2021 QUOTE EXPIRES: January 6, 2022

QUOTE BY: ED

CUSTOMER: COMSTOCK FARM

TELEPHONE:

PROJECT NAME: POLLINATOR SEED BLEND

PROJECT #:

PRICING: Bulk

AREA: Area 1	Total Area: 0.50 Acres						
SPECIES	LBS/ACRE	SEEDS/LB	SEEDS/FT SQ	% SEEDS *			
MILKWEED SHOWY p	2.00	87,000.00	3.99	9.67			
MILKWEED THIN LEAF p	3.00	100,000.00	6.89	16.66			
BEEPLANT, YELLOW p	1.00	65,900.00	1.51	3.66			
BEEPLANT ROCKY MOUNTAIN	1.00	65,900.00	1.51	3.66			
YARROW WHITE	0.15	2,770,000.00	9.54	23.08			
LUPINE BLEND p	1.00	20,000.00	0.46	1.11			
PENSTEMON BLEND p	1.00	550,000.00	12.63	30.55			
BUCKWHEAT SULFUR p	1.00	209,000.00	4.80	11.61			
	10.15		41.33	100.00%			

<sup>\*- &</sup>quot;% SEEDS" IS YOUR DESIRED PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION OF EACH SPECIES FOR THE SITE, OR IN OTHER WORDS, HOW MANY PLANTS OF EACH TYPE DO YOU WANT TO SEE GROWING.

Pollinator garden seeded into 3 year old green manure site

917 Highway 88 Gardnerville, NV 89460 (775) 265-0090 FAX (775) 265-0040

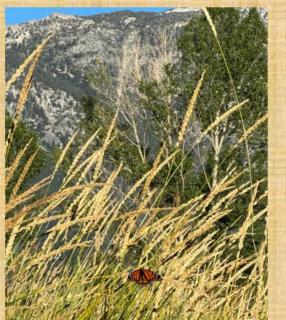


# Monarch garden 9-22

Perennial clover dominant and persistent with Yarrow, vetch, and sunflowers But where's the Milkweed, Penstemons, and Sulfur flower?



Asclepias speciosa and fascicularis have increased 10-fold on the farm in the last three years





**MILKWEED MONARCH HABITAT SUMMER 2023** 





Comstock Seed

## First regenerative ag seeding

From:

917 Highway 88

Gardnervill, NV 89460

Mix Name: Custom Mix

8-01550

237098

Cover crop 2023

% Pure	Common Name	Variety	G + D or H	Origin
16.94	CEREAL RYE	Gazelle (S)	92 + 0 = 92	CAN
16.89	TRITICALE	Gunner (S)	99 + 0 = 99	MT
16.83	PEAS	Arvika/Austrian Peas	93 + 1 = 94	МТ
8.47	SAINFOIN	Shoshone	96 -TZ	MT
8.46	VETCH, HAIRY	VNS	97 + 0 = 97	
8.45	LENTIL	Avondale	98 + 0 = 98	МТ
8.42	RYEGRASS, ANNUAL	Meroa	97 + 0 = 97	OR
3.37	RYEGRASS, PERENNIAL	Nui (F)	96 + 0 = 96	NZ
3.22	INTERMEDIATE WHEATGRASS	Oahe	95 + 0 = 95	SD
3.18	PASTURE BLEND	Oro Verde	0 + 0 = 0	USA
1.69	CRESTED WHEATGRASS	Newkirk	96 + 0 = 96	CAN
1.68	BLUEGRASS, KENTUCKY	Ginger	96 + 0 = 96	OR
1.66	FORAGE RADISH	Groundhog	98 + 0 = 98	МТ

 0.16 Other Crop
 Date Tested: 22-Oct-21

 0.60 Inert Matter
 Hard Seed: 0.17

0.00 Weed Seed Noxious Weed: NONE FOUND

Net Weight: 47.53 Lbs. PLS

50.00 Lbs. Bulk

Coverage: 50.000 Bulk #

NOTICE TO BUYER LIMITATIONS OF WARRANTIES AND REMEDIES

Crop yield and quality are dependent upon many factors beyond the control of the labeled seller and NO WARRANTY is made for crop yield and quality. The labeled seller warrants that all iseed sold has been labeled as required under applicable state and federal seed law and that the seed conforms to the label description, within recognized tolerances. THIS WARRANTY IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. THERE ARE NO WARRANTHES WHICH EXTEND BEYOND THE DESCRIPTION NO THE LABEL.

No claim shall be asserted against the labeled seller unless Buyer reports to the labeled seller within a reasonable period after discovery (not to exceed thirty days), any condition that might lead to a complaint. BUYER'S EXCUSIVE REMEDY FOR ANY CLAIM OR LOSS RESULTING FROM BREACH OF WARRANTY, BREACH OF CONTRACT OR NEGLIGENCE (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES) SHALL BE LIMITED TO REPAYMENT OF THE PURCHASE PRICE.

By acceptance of the seed, Buyer agrees the terms and conditions stated above are a benefit to the bargain and constitute the entire agreement between Buyer and the labeled seller. Buyer shall return the original unopened seed package to the labeled seller within twenty days of receipt for a refund of the purchase price if not accepted under these terms.

NOTICE: REQUIRED ARBITRATION / CONCILIATION / MEDIATION

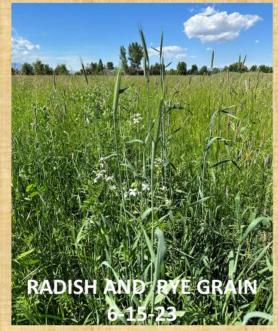
The seed laws of several states including Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, South Carolina (Section 46-21-260), South Dakota, Texas and Washington require arbitration, conciliation or mediation of disputes involving alleged defective seed before certain legal actions may be maintained against a seller. North Carolina offers an alternative to court action that allows claims to be investigated and heard before the Special Seed Board. A complaint (sworn for AR, CO, FL, IL, IN, MN, MS, MT, NC, SC, TX, WA; signed only, CA, GA, ID, ND, SD) must be filled with the Department of Agriculture or Seed Commissioner (IN) or State Plant Board (AR) Commissioner of Agriculture (NC) within such time to permit an inspection of seed, crops or plants (by an Arbitration Committee – AR, ID, MS, SC). In NC, failure to follow this procedure will limit the amount of damages recoverable. Certified copy of complaint must be sent by registered mail to the labeled seller as provided in individual state law. Information about these requirements may be obtained from the state Department of Agriculture.

Will Call: Comstock Farm

# 28 ACRE DRILL SEEDING 10-22 Rich Wilkinson Great Plains drill FIELDS 1,3,4

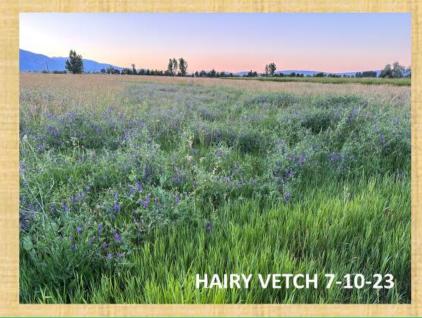








**ARVIKA AUSTRIAN PEAS FLOWERING 6-16-23** 



COVER CROP SUCCESS





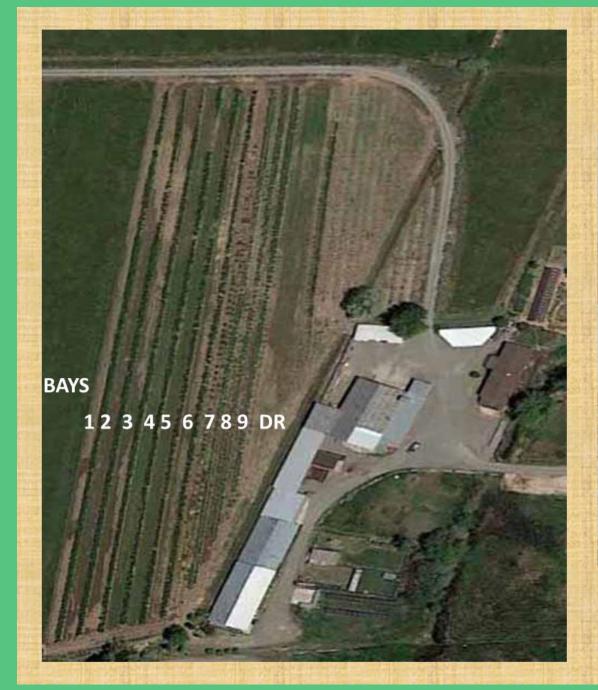


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1-24	CU	VLIV	CIT	UF	JLL	יווע	v

# **COVER CROP SEEDING 1-24**

	SPECIES				В	ulk LBs Seed	ed			
Date		26-Jan	20-Jan	21-Jan	21-Jan	23-Jan	26-Jan	27-Jan	28-Jan	30-Jan
Seeding	method		ddsd	dsd	dsd	sdd	dsd	dsd	dsd	dsd
		Bay 1	Bay 2	Bay 3	Bay 4	Bay 5	Bay 6	Bay 7	Bay 8-9	Ditch road
	Annual rye L73	2	2	2	2	2	2		2	2
	Radish	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
	Lentils	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
	Peas	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
	Millet	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
	Crimson clover	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Hycon Rose clover	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Wheat winter Ray	2		2						
	Barley spring Lavina				2					
	Oats spring Monida					2				
	Oats spring Ajay							5		
	Triticale						2			
	Quickguard				STATE OF THE PARTY			Trans.		5
	Hairy vetch								2	
	Wildflowers annual	1								
		13	10	12	12	12	12	14	13	11

Unlike spring 2022 seeding which also contained perennial pasture species as well



Each bay contains a unique cover crop seed blend and variable application techniques



Grass left standing until early spring mowing 4' snow drifts settled in western rows

# NRCS High Tunnel installation 2010









500 lbs of tomatoes harvested after first freeze killed outdoor plants. 717 lbs total 2011

Tomato drying









### **Broken Bow, NE**

Producer and supplier of conservation and premium forage seed, primarily serving the Midwest.

### Osborne, KS

Leading supplier of agriculture and conservation seed in the Midwest for over 100 years.

### Lehi, UT; Denver, CO; Tempe, AZ

One-stop revegetation products and services since 1988.

### Carpinteria, CA; and Albany, OR

At the forefront of the collection of seeds for native California plants since 1975.

# This consortium purchases native seed from the High Plains to the Pacific ocean.

Seed certification is important.

For new seeding, use Foundation seed for varietals and Source Identified seed for native collections.



### Manteca, CA

Leading proprietor of cover crop blends for pollination and soil regeneration serving orchards and vineyards through NGOs and our distribution partners.



### Tracy, CA

Native seed collection and distribution in Northern California and Nevada since 1985.



#### Reno, NV

Wildland seed acquisition and consultation for shrub, grass, and flower seed throughout the Western



### Townsend, MT; and Billings, MT

A premier grower and distributor of quality pasture, turf and reclamation seed in the western United States and Canada.



### Connell, WA

Native seed farming production for internal distribution and large federal and state agencies.



### Winters, CA

Highly specialized producer of localecotype seed for the Northern and Central California market.



### Los Alamos, CA

Highly specialized producer of localecotype seed native seed products for the Southern and Central Southern California market.



### Salt Lake City, UT

Premium online retailer of regionally adapted native, forage, pasture, and lawn seed blends spanning the entire U.S. market.

# Home sweet home







