UNR Seed Cleaning Facility & Seed Bank

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Native Seed Processing Center

- What is seed cleaning?
- Equipment
- Testing
- Storing
Steps to Processing Seed

- **Seed conditioning**
  - breaking up plant material

- **Seed cleaning**
  - separating all the plant material from the seed
Seed Conditioning

• We have:
  • Westrup Brush Machine (6 different mantles)
Seed Conditioning

- Wintersteiger Thresher
Seed Conditioning

- Sieves!
Time to Clean!

- We have 3 pieces of cleaning equipment
  - Office Clipper
  - Vibratory Separator
  - Continuous Seed Blower
Seed Cleaning: Office Clipper

We have over 100 different screen sizes!
Seed Cleaning: Vibratory Separator
Seed Cleaning: Continuous Seed Blower
Seed Cleaning: Sieves again!
Busting Common Misconceptions of Seed Cleaning

- Undesired seed is **NOT** easy to remove
- Similar shape and size **VERY** difficult
- Costly $$$
- Loss of desired seed
- Risk of spreading noxious or invasive species
Busting Common Misconceptions of Seed Cleaning

- It is **NOT** easy to remove extraneous (chaff) material
- Costly $$$
- Loss of desired seed
Seed Testing

- Cut tests
- Purity test
- Germination test
- X-ray machine
Storage

• Long-term and short-term
Species cleaned to-date

- 49 different species (GB & Mojave)
  - Shrubs, grasses, and forbs
- Over 225 different lots!
Ways we can contribute to seed production:

• We can clean by request, and can take payments with credit cards or P.O.

• A natural fit is cleaning wild-collected stock seed, or smaller lots (10lbs/less) of smaller increases

• We can scale up to a few hundred pounds: easiest for native grasses or cooperative forbs
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