# Native Seed: History, Production and Establishment

Robert Hoffman Roundstone Native Seed



### **Site Conditions**

#### Where is the site located?

Piedmont?

Coastal Plain?

Mountains?

**Soil Conditions** 

**Sun Conditions** 



### What is our purpose?

Mimic Nature?: Recreate natural settings.

Forage: Haying and Grazing

Habitat?: deer, turkey, rabbit, quail, songbirds
Bedding, fawning, brooding, cover

Pollinators?: Bees, butterfly's, moths, wasps, etc.

Erosion Control, mitigation, ground coverage?



Forage



### Habitat

- Songbirds
- Quail
- Turkey

Government Program



#### **Pollinator Plot**

- Blooms throughout the growing season
  - Minimum 8 wildflower species
  - 20 + species
  - Nectar and Pollen Resource
- Undisturbed Soil
  - Ground Nesting
- Host Plants
  - Milkweeds

### **Pollinator Plot continued**

- Don't forget the Grass and Grass-like Species!
  - Erosion control
  - Host plants
  - Winter aesthetics
  - Nest Sites

10-50% Grasses

### **Erosion Control**



#### **Seed Considerations**

- Flowable
- Size
- Weight
- Germination
- Dormancy
- Type













Size and Weight

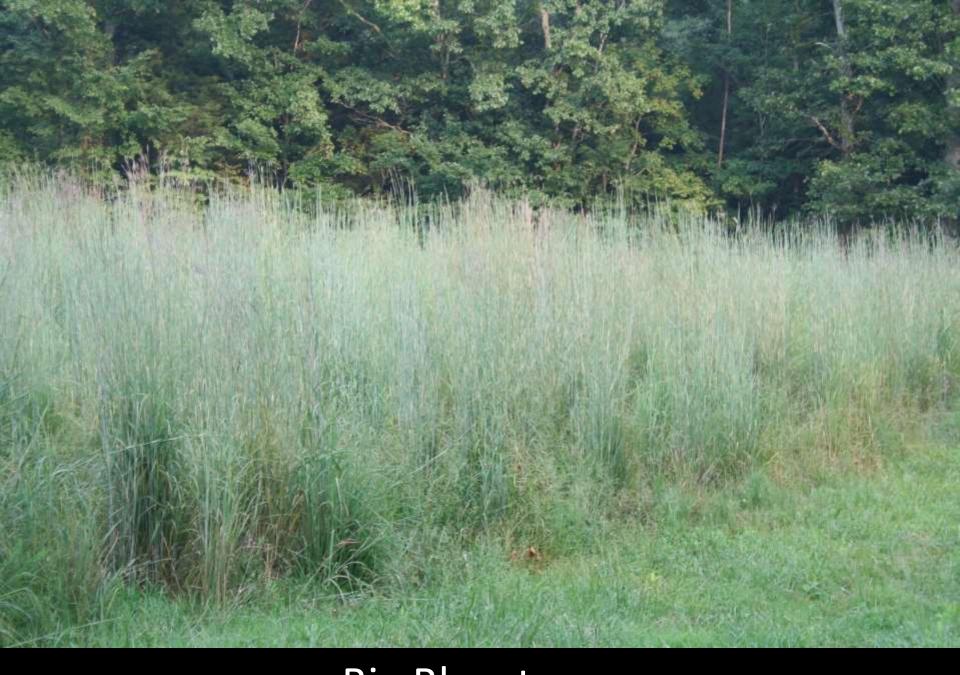




#### **Plant Considerations**

- Aesthetics.... What is our desired look?
- Height
- Structure
- Size
- Color
- Blooming period
- Aggressiveness of plants
- Dormancy
- Longevity
- Site conditions





Big Bluestem



Deer Tongue Grass



Florida Tick Trefoil



Blackeyed Susan

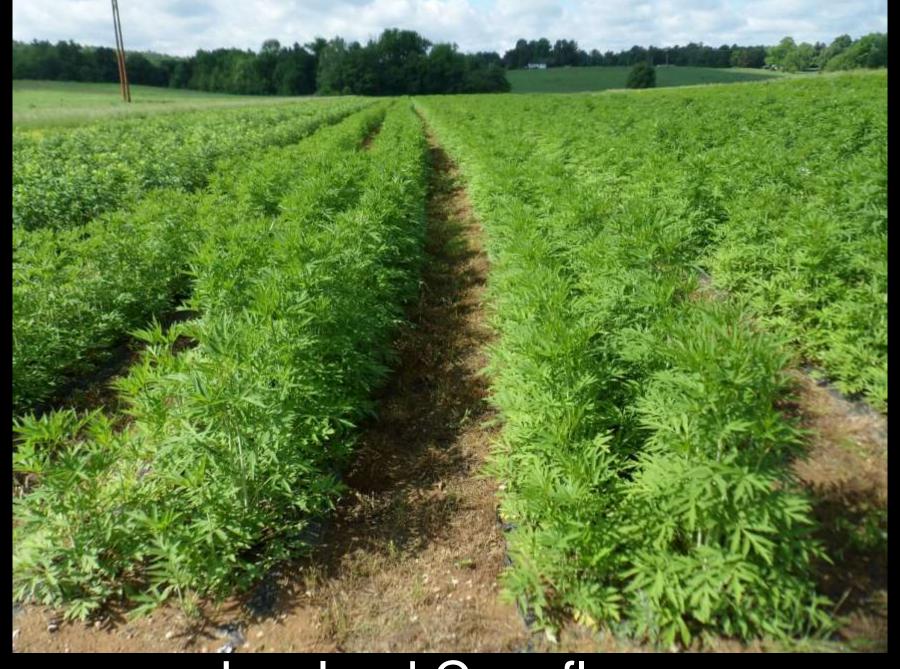




## Indian Grass



Wild Senna



Lowland Coneflower



Frank's Sedge

#### Mix Considerations

- PLS
- Number of seeds per pound
- Number of seeds per square foot
- Likelihood of seeds to germinate due to size
- Size of plants at maturity
- % Grass to Forb Ratio
- % Annual to perennial Ratio
- Variety of Color
- Ecological Bloom periods

#### Pure Live Seed

- How is Pure Live Seed (PLS) Calculated?
  - A certified test determines the Purity % and Germination % of each lot of Seed
- Purity = the percent of actual seed in the lot
- Germination = the percent of actual seed that will germinate

PLS = Purity % X Germination



Pure Live Seed = Purity X Germination



### Size of plant at maturity











Bunch Grass







#### Common Seeding Methods

Broadcasting

Drilling

Hydroseeding













**April Planting** 



### 6 weeks



### 12 Weeks



### 20 weeks



# Cover Crops



## Nurse Crops











#### Planting with Nurse Crop



#### 6-12 weeks



20 weeks



# 2<sup>nd</sup> year Growing Season



## 2<sup>nd</sup> year Dormant Season



