

National Forests in Alabama local genotype seed source establishment

FY 2009 Accomplishments

The purpose of this project is to build an available source of native Alabama genotype seed and/or plant materials for the Forest Service and other agencies and landowners to use in longleaf ecosystem and rare community restoration, project rehabilitation, and NNIS management situations. In 2009, a major effort was put into contacting, visiting, and building relationships with several commercial native seed / plant operations. Seeds from *Andropogon gyrans* and *Danthonia sericea* were collected in anticipation of this project from the Talladega and Tuskegee Districts in Fall 2008 and were sent to Rock Spring Farms. These species are now in plug production and will be available for purchase Spring 2010. Rock Spring was also involved in a couple small projects installing native grass plugs (GA Piedmont ecotype) in 2009 on NFAL.

Andropogon gerardii seed and possibly *Ctenium aromaticum* from the Conecuh District (AL Coastal Plain) will be collected this fall and will be shipped to Ernst Seed Company to be put into production. This increase will likely take 2-3 years or so before it is commercially available. Roundstone Seed Co is also involved with our project. A 6 ft. native grass / legume seed drill was also purchased in 2009. These investments will continue to build and produce native seed and plant materials for the NFAL and partners in the future.



Andropogon gerardii, Talladega District

Year Awarded: 2009

Project completion: (2011)

Report number: 1 of 3

Expenditures:

- FY09 funding: \$15,357
- Expend: \$14,800
- Remaining: \$ 557

Ryan Shurette 334-241-8143



Installing native plugs, left. *Andropogon gyrans*, right



**NF in Alabama
Supervisor's Office**
2946 Chestnut St.
Montgomery, AL 36107