Native Seed Definitions



Native plant: indigenous terrestrial and aquatic plant species that have evolved and occur naturally in a particular region, ecosystem, or habitat.

Non-native plant: alien, foreign, nonindigenous, or exotic plant species that have been introduced by humans to a location(s) outside its native or natural range.

Invasive plant: a plant that is both non-native and able to establish on many sites, grow quickly, and spread to the point of disrupting plant communities or ecosystems.

Locally adapted plant: a plant from an area geographically near a planting site that is environmentally adapted and likely to establish and persist.

Workhorse species: locally adapted native plants that are abundant across a wide range of ecological settings, establish quickly, and produce high ground cover on disturbed sites.

Seed Transfer Guidance:

recommendations for protecting adaptations of wild populations by restricting seed transfer only to areas where they will grow, reproduce successfully, and produce no adverse genetic effects.

Wildland collected seed: seed that is harvested from a native plant community on uncultivated land (G0 seed).

Source Identified seed: inspected seed that is harvested from uncultivated land, seed production areas, seed fields, or orchards where no selection or testing of the parent population has been conducted (G0 seed).

Foundation seed: the earliest certified generation of seed available to producers for seed production (G1 seed).

Bulk seed: refers to seed that does not take into account its purity and germination.

Pure-live-seed (PLS): the amount of live, viable seed in a lot of bulk seed.

PURITY X PERCENT TOTAL GERMINATION = % PLS 100

Seed Zone: a mapped area with fixed boundaries in which seeds or plant materials can be transferred for the best chance of success.

Provisional Seed Zone: based on climate variables

Empirical Seed Zone: based on climate variables and a species' genetic variation.



Provisional Seed Zones from Bower *et al.* 2014

Poa secunda Empirical Seed Zone from Johnson et al. 2015