Plant Materials

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Mission and Vision for the PMC Program

A Plant Materials Program functioning as the plant experts for NRCS, fully integrated and coordinated with technical and field office staff, developing and delivering vegetative solutions and conservation technology for NRCS customers.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MANHATTAN PLANT MATERIALS CENTER

3800 South 20th Street

Providing Vegetative Solutions to Conservation Problems
Big Bluestem
'Eureka' Thick-spikeGayfeather
'Sunglo' Greyhead Prairie Coneflower
Illinois Bundleflower
Soil Health
Goals

• Evaluate characteristics and attributes of commercially available varieties/cultivars
• Provide cover crop adaptation and growth data for different geographical regions of the U.S.
• Provide “base” information for NRCS cover crop recommendations and future studies, such as cover crop mixes
• Provide recommendations for both cropland and grazing land soil health
• Serve as a baseline for future germplasm improvement efforts
Regionally Coordinated Activity

Cover crop adaptation Trial at North Central Regional PMC’s

Core plant species:
1. black oats (2)  
2. crimson clover (6)  
3. Austrian winterpea (8)  
4. hairy vetch (5)  
5. balansa clover (2)  
6. rye (14)  
7. red clover (8)  
8. daikon radish (8)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cover Crop Species</th>
<th>Species</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sudangrass (4)</td>
<td>Safflower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMR corn</td>
<td>Radish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winfred hybrid turnip</td>
<td>Phacelia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Millet (3)</td>
<td>Cowpeas (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunn hemp</td>
<td>Guar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flax</td>
<td>Oats</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rapeseed</td>
<td>Yellow Mustard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mung beans</td>
<td>Lentils</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buckwheat</td>
<td>Peas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turnip-purple top</td>
<td>Clover (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sainfoin</td>
<td>Ethiopian Cabbage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soybeans-non GMO</td>
<td>Barley</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Available Assistance

- NRCS Technical Assistance
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program
- Conservation Stewardship Program
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Continuous CRP
- Other Financial Assistance
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