

Longleaf Associates, Francis Marion and Croatan National Forests

FY10 Accomplishments

The Francis Marion (South Carolina) and Croatan (North Carolina) National Forests have expanded their production of herbaceous plants native to longleaf pine ecosystems of the coastal plain of South and North Carolina. Efforts of both Forests have resulted in the collection and testing of 25 pounds of cleaned seed from over 25 species, including a mix of pollinator emphasis and work horse species. North Carolina is working with the NC Division of Forest Resources and Claridge Nursery; SC is working with private nurseries as well as Forest Service seed orchard staff to grow over 200,000 plugs by the end of 2011. Six acres of production areas in four locations are also being established in South Carolina.

Roundstone native seed company is partnering with South Carolina to produce ecotype seed for two workhorse grass species, and will make this seed available to both the FS and the public. The National Forests have purchased a flail-vac to facilitate the harvest of native seed within the coastal plain.

We've also been able to initiate common garden studies, to compare differences in how well species perform across sites, state boundaries, and tentative seed zones on Clemson REC (research and education) facilities. We are working with Southern Research Station and the National Seed Lab on implementation and design of these studies.



Plug production, Francis Marion Seed Orchard

Year Awarded: 2009

Project completion: 2014

Report number: (2 of 2)

Expenditures:

- FY10 NFN3 funding: \$112,000
- FY10 NFVW funding: \$25,000
- FY10 NFWF funding: \$2,750
- Expended: \$139,750
- Remaining: 0

Partners/Contractors/Cooperators:
Clemson Pee Dee REC
Dr. Jeff Glitzenstein
USDA National Seed Lab
Southern Research Station
NC Division of Forest Resources,
Clardige Nursery
UNC Botanical Garden

Contact Person & phone number:
Robin Mackie 803-561-4071



Native legume plugs from the Croatan National Forest



**Francis Marion and
Sumter National Forest**
4931 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29212