

Kisatchie National Forest Native Plant Materials

FY10 Accomplishments

The Botany Program is in the process of establishing five Native Plant and Pollinator Gardens on the Kisatchie National Forest. These gardens are located at the Vernon Unit Work Center, the Caney Ranger District Office, the Kisatchie Ranger District Office, the Supervisor's Office, and South Grant Elementary. The South Grant Elementary site is especially exciting due to the involvement of teachers, students, and parents in its construction, as well as use as an outdoor learning tool in keeping with the U.S. Forest Service's "More Kids in the Woods" program.

The Kisatchie National Forest entered into a contract with the Pineywoods Native Plant Center of Stephen F. Austin University to propagate about 25 species of native forbs for use in these gardens. 1,250 1-quart plants were purchased, and will be planted as this material becomes available. However, due to the lingering drought, actual planting of native forbs and grasses will not occur until early Spring 2011.

Restoration efforts for the Kentucky Lady's Slipper Orchid are ongoing, with seedling production and outplanting trials entering their fifth year http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/rareplants/conservation/success/cypripedium_kentuckyense_seedlings.shtml. A new seed culture technique, i.e. the "green pod culture", was used to circumvent the germination inhibiting chemicals in the mature seed coat. These seeds have germinated and grown into vigorous protocorms that are now developing roots. If all goes well, we should have a lot of seedlings by the summer of 2011.

Funds were also used to purchase a disc-harrow, row hipper and flail-vac for use in the Stuart Seed Orchard Native Plant Materials project.



Southern Yellow Lady Slipper

Year Awarded: 2010

Project completion: (year): 2011
Report number: (1 of 1)

Expenditures:

- FY10 NFN3 funding: \$36,938
- Expend: \$36,938
- Remaining: \$0

Partners/Contractors/Coop:
NRCS

Pineywoods Native Plant Center
South Grant Elementary
Garden Path Stone Center
Kevin Allen

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