

# NNIPS Eradication and Native Ecotype Grass Plug Development & Installation

## FY 2010 Accomplishments

In 2010 the National Forests in Alabama proposed a project to treat bicolor lespedeza infestations on the Talladega National Forest. These infestations currently threaten native plant community diversity and habitats of the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. The proposal also included re-vegetating the treated areas with Alabama-native seeds and/or plugs, where needed. Approximately 110 acres of bicolor lespedeza were treated on the Talladega and Shoal Creek Ranger Districts in the late summer of FY10.

In a separate project, collection of local ecotype native warm season grass seed will occur starting in October (with the help of the Longleaf Alliance staff) and will be shipped to the NRCS NPM center in Coffeeville, MS to be put into production (see National Forests in Mississippi's FY10 Native Plant Materials report). Collected seed will also go to Rock Spring Farm Nursery where it will be germinated and grown into plugs for out-planting onto the most-needed rehabilitation sites next year.

Additionally, Alabama ecotype native seed was purchased in FY10 for restoration/rehab work on the Forests, to assist with maintaining demand levels (from commercial seed companies like Ernst Native Seed) for use in these areas.



*Spraying bicolor lespedeza before native grass plug installation*

Year Awarded: 2010

Project completion: 2011

Report number: 1 of 2

Expenditures:

- FY10 funding: 28,500
- Expend: 28,500
- Remaining: 0

Partners/Contractors/Coop: Walter Bland, Rock Spring Farm NWSG Plugs, The Longleaf Alliance, NRCS

Ryan Shurette, Forest Botanist  
334-241-8143



*Native warm season grass plugs from Rock Spring Farms*



**National Forests in Alabama**  
2946 Chestnut Street  
Montgomery Alabama