



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Natural Resources  
Conservation  
Service  
(NRCS)

P.O. Box 25287  
12795 W, Alameda Parkway

Denver CO 80225-0287

Telephone: 303 969-2172

E-Mail: [russ\\_haas@nps.gov](mailto:russ_haas@nps.gov)

Fax: 303 969-2736

Date: May 19, 2003

SUBJECT: NPS/NRCS Plant Materials Program

TO: NPS Native Plant Revegetation Practitioners

Enclosed for your information are the FY 2002 NRCS Interagency Plant Materials Program Summary Reports to the National Park Service.

These reports document progress in fulfillment of cooperative agreements between various park units of the National Park Service and Plant Materials Centers of the Natural Resources Conservation Service. These projects relate to technical assistance and development of indigenous native plant materials for revegetation and restoration.

Please share this information with park staff and others whom you feel could benefit from the program.

If you have any questions/comments, please call me at 303-969-2172 or Nancy Dunkle at 303-969-2568

Russell J. Haas  
NRCS Technical Advisor-NPS

## ACADIA NATIONAL PARK 2002 ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared by  
USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Big Flats New York Plant Materials Center

### I INTRODUCTION:

The USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Big Flats Plant Materials Center, entered into an interagency agreement with the USDI, National Park Service, Acadia National Park: IA Project No.4500-02-001 (2003).

The Natural Resources Conservation Service agreed to;

- (A) Collect seed and plant material of selected species within Acadia National Park boundaries.
- (B) Use these seeds and plant materials to establish isolated seed increase fields of grasses and forbs, to produce plugs and transplants of grasses, forbs, trees and shrubs.
- (C) Make available seed, plugs and transplants to Acadia National Park for re-vegetation of the Seawall Campground Rehab Project from fall 2002 to fall 2004.

The park will use the plant materials for re-vegetation after upgrading the Seawall Campground and seeding areas disturbed during utility and reconstruction work in the park. The PMC activities have focused on seed and plant collections in the Acadia National Park, seed production, processing and conditioning, seed/plant propagation of plugs and transplants at the plant materials center, establishing seed increase fields, propagating materials vegetatively and delivering the plant material back to the Park.

### II ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

During 2002, seed was collected in late October (winterberry, pasture rose, glycera, white birch, bayberry, arrowwood viburnum, wild raisin, mountain ash, and hawthorn). Vegetative cutting material was collected in mid-June (meadowsweet) and late October (meadowsweet, quaking aspen, and arrowwood viburnum). Vegetated Material was collected in mid-June (bunchberry, arborvitae and red maple) and late October (arborvitae, balsam fir, red spruce).

Two deliveries of plant materials was made in 2002. The June delivery was 6520 plugs, 365 plants and 59.5lbs of seed (forbs and grass) to complete the plants for pkg 229 and 232. The October delivery was 502 plants for the Seawall Campground project.

A seed increase field of red fescue, established on September 14, 2000, came on very well this year even with a severe summer drought conditions again this year. We got the first harvest in 2002 from this field plus we harvested the other production fields. For our forb production, we had been establishing stands on long single rows, allowing for easier mechanical cultivation and harvesting. In 2001 and 2002, we established new seed production blocks using weed barrier fabric. Plugs of goldenrod and aster were started in the greenhouse and then transplanted into six feet wide weed barrier fabric on an approximate spacing of 1 foot by 1 foot. The plantings were irrigated and they established well. The fabric will keep out weeds over a number of years and it has allowed us this year to harvest the seed with a combine by straddling the beds. Seed was harvested in 2002 of red fescue, goldenrods, and asters and the seed was processed. The small, light seed is still a challenge to harvest and clean. All seed is tested at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station's Seed Lab in Geneva, New York.

Seed of trees and shrubs that were growing in flats in the PMC cold frames, were potted up and placed in the lathe house. This included white birch, white spruce, winterberry, and mountain holly. Seedlings from prior year seeding (white spruce, white birch, bayberry) were re-potted into 1 gallon containers. Red maple seedlings, collected along the edge of a dirt road in the park, were planted in flats in the cold frame. Cuttings of meadowsweet rooted well in the greenhouse mist system and were potted up during the summer and placed in the lathe house. The dry summer and fall weather required the lathe house to be watered through November.

At Acadia, plant materials were utilized to re-vegetate disturbed areas from utility work, construction projects including the Seawall Campground project and sites of soil disturbance. Roping out the areas and posting re-vegetation signs has definitely helped keep the visitors out of the plantings, giving the plants a chance to get established and grow.

### III TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT/TRANSFER

Forb seed production fields were successfully established by planting into weed fabric. Harvesting and seed cleaning techniques continue to be refined each year. Many of the plantings in the park are growing well. Posting revegetation signs has helped to minimize the trampling of plants by visitors and has educated the public on how the park service is utilizing native plants.