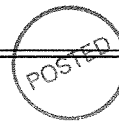


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U.S. Department of Agriculture Accomplishments Report AD-421 U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, State Agricultural Experiment Stations and Other Institutions			Date (Month, Day, Year) 01/17/2013
1. Accession 0212967	Agency Identification No. 2. CSREES 3. LAB	5. Work Unit/Project No. LAB93885	6. Status Final Report
7. Title Genetic Improvement of Coastal Wetland Plants			
12. Investigator Name(s) (Last Name and Initials) Knott, C. A.; Materne, M.; Subudhi, P.; Utomo, H.; Harrison, S.; Schneider, R.			
20. Termination Date 09/30/2012		40. Period Covered (mo/da/year): 10/01/2007 TO 09/30/2012	
Outputs: Six smooth cordgrass and four sea oats varieties were developed for coastal restoration applications in Louisiana and variety registrations were published in three publications in a peer-reviewed journal. Six smooth cordgrass patents were submitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Methods to efficiently produce and maintain the coastal plant varieties and support systematic breeding efforts were documented in six peer-reviewed journal publications (three published and three accepted for publication); three extension publications; one magazine article; four oral presentations (2008 and 2010 American Society of Agronomy Meetings; 2009 and 2012 LSU AgCenter Field Days); and ten poster presentations (2010 and 2012 State of the Coast Conferences; 2008 and 2010 American Society of Agronomy Meetings; 2008 Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration Conference). This project also worked with Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry and USDA-NRCS to generate three certification standards for smooth cordgrass, sea oats, and California bulrush plant varieties to support the varieties developed and released.			
Outcomes/Impacts: Release of 10 genetically different coastal plant varieties provides material for Louisiana's restoration projects that mimic natural plant populations. Certification of plant varieties provide needed quality control and identity assurance for Louisiana's wetland plant producers and restoration agencies. Efficient management practices are necessary for a successful breeding program. This project found that sea oats selected for good performance in saturated beach environments had similar levels of genetic diversity as natural populations throughout the United States and indicates sufficient genetic diversity exists among selected breeding lines to support a successful sea oats breeding program. This project also found that sea oats seeds stored at room temperature in hermetically sealed jars maintain viability; three month-old sea oats seedlings survive in beach restoration projects; and high sea oats seed yields occur when numerous genetically different genotypes are included in seed production nurseries. These findings directly impact coastal restoration industry by identifying essential cultural practices necessary for efficient and economical production and installation of sea oats plants. Cultural practices for smooth cordgrass were also identified. Glyphosate, imazapyr and glufosinate effectively controlled established smooth cordgrass plants and small seedlings and weeds in freshwater production systems. When smooth cordgrass plants are mowed in early spring, smooth cordgrass plant yields are increased and plant quality is also increased.			
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201, LA12-202, and LA12-203. J. Plant Registrations 6(3): 289-293. DOI: 10.3198/jpr2012.02.0113crc.

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Participants:

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Target Audiences:

Wetland plant producers; federal and state agencies completing coastal restoration in Louisiana; private companies and landowners completing coastal restoration projects in Louisiana; and coastal restoration policymakers, planners, managers, and practitioners.

Project Modifications:

Neither the determination of gene action and heritability of ecologically important traits in smooth cordgrass and sea oats nor the addition of new plant species were completed due to monetary constraints.

Approved (Signature)	Title	Date
