

Licensing the Production of Native Seed Releases

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In recent years, the strategy to bid out production and licensing of new seed releases has become the primary seed commercialization model of the *Texas Native Seeds Program* (TNSP). This allows seed producers to have a fair chance at producing a seed release through our program. In addition, it also allows our program the ability to maximize production of the releases being licensed, decrease the amount of seed needed to supply commercial growers, and set production and quality standards. Seeking production without the use of licenses has typically resulted in a minimum of 3 years before any seed reaches the commercial market.

Ten new seed releases were licensed to the commercial seed growers in 2018, with seed being sent out and commercial production beginning in 2019. In one growing season, all 10 new releases were successfully produced by our seed industry partners. Seed of those releases should be available to consumers in 2020. In 2021, TNSP plans on licensing five additional native seed releases to help supply ecotypic seed sources for use across Texas.

Commercialization of native seed releases is a major reason for the success of the TNSP. Seed production licenses are a useful tool in achieving the program's mission, and to achieving our ultimate goals of enabling the successful restoration of native plant communities to benefit wildlife in Texas.

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2018 Production Bid Proposal Growers

Species	Release name	Growers
Little barley	Cibolo Germplasm	Douglass King Seed Co., Bamert Seed, Amigos Genetics
Silver bluestem	Santiago Germplasm	Douglass King Seed Co., Bamert Seed, Amigos Genetics
Hooded windmillgrass	Burnet Germplasm	Douglass King Seed Co., Bamert Seed, Amigos Genetics
Sand dropseed	Taylor Germplasm	Douglass King Seed Co., Bamert Seed, Amigos Genetics
Purple threeawn	Menard Germplasm	Douglass King Seed Co., Bamert Seed
Purple threeawn	Loma Germplasm	Douglass King Seed Co., Bamert Seed
Whiplash pappusgrass	Permian Germplasm	Douglass King Seed Co., Bamert Seed
Slim tridens	Bexar Germplasm	Douglass King Seed Co., Bamert Seed
Rough tridens	Brystal Germplasm	Douglass King Seed Co., Bamert Seed
Sideoats grama	Brewster Germplasm	Douglass King Seed Co., Bamert Seed