

Native Seed Development for the East Texas Understory

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Over the next 20 years, the national forests of East Texas will experience an increase in land disturbance resulting from oil and gas activity. This increase highlights the need for a reliable supply of regionally adapted native plant seed sources for effective reclamation of disturbed sites. We have partnered with the U.S. Forest Service and the USDA Natural Resources and Conservation Service East Texas Plant Materials Center to provide the seed needed to support native plant restoration efforts in the region. The commercial production of native plant seed helps to provide the quality and quantity of seed needed to meet restoration demands in East Texas.

Our focus is on the collection and evaluation of native understory species to determine the best performing plant populations for commercial production. We are also working to increase the availability of current source-identified seed varieties to help meet immediate supply demands. The goal is to enable successful restoration by providing quality seed sources best suited for the region. Native plant seed produced from this partnership will help to restore disturbed sites and increase the quality of habitat for wildlife in the piney woods and blackland prairies of East Texas.

Cooperative funding provided by the U.S. Forest Service, Ellen Temple, USDA Natural Resources and Conservation Service, and the numerous private donors to the East Texas Natives Project.