

SWCD Accepting Bids on No-Till Drills

The Soil and Water Conservation District will be accepting bids on two no-till drills they have used to rent to landowners. Both drills are Tye Pasture Pleasers.



Drill #1 was purchased new in 1991 and is a 80” end wheel. The drill has grass and legume boxes. This drill can be pulled with a tractor with 40 hp minimum. It has 4800 acre on it.

Drill # 2 was purchased new in 2000 and is a 7 foot model. Along with the grass-grain box it also has a legume box and a native grass box. This drill has drilled 2100 acres.

If you are interested in bidding on one or both drills, please contact the SWCD office and request a bid sheet. Bids are due by June 30, 2011. The SWCD can be contacted by phone at 573-346-5125 or by email at connie.luttrell@swcd.mo.gov.

Ava Baker Is Retiring!

After thirty-three and one-half years of service with the Farm Services Agency, Ava Baker will be retiring to stay home, enjoy her grandkids, and relax.

Ava started her work with the Farm Services Agency when the agency was known as ASCS and was located in the basement of the Camden County courthouse. She worked part-time, training with Bonnie Bobbitt. After Bonnie’s retirement, Ava became the manager of the Camden FSA office. When the office closed and consolidated with the Laclede County office, Ava transferred to that office. After a period of time, Ava and her husband, Dale, moved to Lebanon to be closer to work. Prior to her employment with FSA, Ava worked for the Camden SWCD.

There will be a retirement celebration on June 2 at the Lebanon USDA office at 1242 Deadra Drive, Lebanon. If you would like to celebrate with Ava, go by the office between noon and 3:00 pm to wish her well and have refreshments. If you are unable to attend and would like to send her a note or card, her home address is 23821 Pine Tree Drive, Lebanon, MO 65536.

“Too many people have lost sight that productive soil is essential to the production of food”
Hugh Hammond Bennett. *Soil Conservation Service*

Annual Meeting Hi-lights

The Camden County Soil & Water Conservation District held their annual Appreciation Dinner on Tuesday, March 08th, at the Knights of Columbus Bauer Hall. Two hundred fifteen people turned out for an evening which included a catered meal, photo contest, poster contest, a PowerPoint presentation on the year's past events, and musical entertainment.



This year's entertainment was provided by the students from the Camden Christian School. They performed a condensed version of their annual spring concert.



This year's poster contest theme was "Forests for People " and was open to all 4th, 5th, and 6th graders in the county. The grand prize winner of this year's Poster Contest was Ivy Zeer, who is a 4th grader at Hawthorne in Camdenton. Ivy received \$50 for her winning poster. First place winners received \$25, second place received \$20, third place winners received \$15, and 4th place took home \$10. Along with their cash prizes, finalists received ribbons. All participants received a bag of goodies for their efforts.

4th Grade

HM – Haley Green, Hurricane Deck

HM– Paige Poss, Hurricane Deck

HM– Jared Vanderberg, Camden Christian

HM– Jayden Stewart, Hurricane Deck

HM– Tiana Enriquez, Hurricane Deck

3rd place – Precious Batty, Camden Christian

2nd place- Alicia Martin, Hurricane Deck

1st place – Emma Hoback, Camden Christian

5th Grade

HM– Laeli Schifelbein, Oak Ridge

HM– Breanne Ballard, Oak Ridge

HM– Ben Pielstick, Oak Ridge

HM– Austin Horton, Camden Christian

3rd place – Timothy Batty, Camden Christian

2nd place – Isaac Rector, Camden Christian

1st place – Grace Hall, Oak Ridge



Photo contest winners were determined by popular vote by those attending the meeting.

Winners of the photo contest were:

4th place – Connie Turek, "Young Love"

3rd place – Kirk Davis, "God's Butterfly Colors"

2nd place – Lalia Sousley, "Three Feathered Friends"

1st place – Kay Abbott, "Cute and Screechy"

Grand Prize—Heather Luttrell, "Ready, Set, Play "

The evening concluded with drawings for door prizes.



GRAZING SCHOOL TO BE HELD IN FALL

The Camden, Laclede, and Pulaski SWCDs, in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and University Extension, will be sponsoring a Management Intensive Grazing School in St. Robert Camdenton on September 21 and 22.

An Intensive Grazing School is designed to educate livestock producers about management practices that will maximize returns from forages and livestock. This workshop will consist of both classroom and field work in planned grazing systems. The school is also a requirement for participation in the DSP-3 grazing system practices.

Topics to be covered at the school are: Soils and Soil Fertility, Forage Quality, Evaluation of Farm Resources, Layout & Design, Meeting Nutritional Needs of Livestock, Basic Graziers' Arithmetic, Water Requirements, Economics, and Fencing Materials.

The fee for the 2 day school is \$50. This includes resource books and materials, lunch, and refreshments. A couple sharing materials can attend for \$70. Space is limited so you need to sign up as soon as possible. The school will be held in the St. Robert Community Center. To register for the school, contact the Pulaski SWCD office at 573-774-4767.

So You Want to Grow Some Wildflowers?



By Pamela Cornelius

This time of year there occurs a phenomenon I like to call “gardenitis”. The thoughts of many turn to orderly rows of green beans, plump strawberries, and gorgeous flowers in mad profusion. For some of you, vegetables & fruit are fine, but what you really like are the flowers. Many people have made an attempt to grow native Missouri wildflowers, but sometimes the results are less successful than they wished for. Let’s investigate a few aspects of growing native wildflowers and how your next attempt might turn out better.

The first thing we need to cover is- where can I collect? In Missouri, it is illegal by state law to harvest plants from highway right-of-ways, state parks, national forests, and conservation areas. On private lands however, you could collect seeds from large populations with consent from the landowner. Trying to transplant native wildflowers by digging up the entire plant to transplant in your yard or garden is rarely successful; it is just too much shock to the plant.

With this in mind, where would be a good source obtain wildflower seed? Because of the increased demand for native plants to use in landscaping, many nurseries, garden centers, and seed companies are now offering wildflower seed. A national supplier’s directory is available on-line at: www.wildflowers.org. It is associated with the University of Texas- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, and is easy to use. Look under the heading “Explore Plants” and click on “suppliers”. Next, just type in your zip code and it lists suppliers and landscape professionals in your local area.

Now let’s look at the main three reasons many native wildflower plantings fail or are less than spectacular.

1) Pure impatience- many wildflower plantings don’t really produce much in the way of actual

flowers until the third year.

- 2) Weed control- either the seedbed is not well prepared at planting time, or invasive plants take over the site later on.
- 3) Planting the seed too deep- most of the time just barely tilling beforehand can achieve enough seed to soil contact. Don’t put 2” of soil on top of your plantings, they may never come up.

Other factors such as site selection, bad weather, and lack of sunlight can also contribute.

How to plant these tiny seeds without accidentally getting them too deep? Use plain clay cat litter to use as a carrier for these barely visible seeds. Make sure it is not scented, or has anything else in it that might retard the seeds from germinating. After looking up the recommended seeding rates mix your seed with the litter and pour it into any yard or garden seeder for spreading on your prepared seedbed. Rake the area lightly afterwards and you should be fine.

Many natives that produce wildflowers in Missouri are warm-season plants that may require prescribed burning of larger plots to keep out cool-season grasses and other invaders. Due to danger of fire escape in populated areas, regulations, and the lack of knowledge about burning, it may be a good idea to keep your plantings small & weed able. If you are a landowner wanting to plant larger areas in wildflowers you may want to attend a Landowner Burn Workshop conducted by the Missouri Department of Conservation. Call your local MDC office for a list of workshops to be conducted in your area.

In closing, there are many books and articles available on germinating and propagating wildflowers. So, study up, plant local varieties, and have some patience. Maybe someday your driveway or lane might be the envy of your neighbors, causing them to have a little “gardenitis” too!

Ag History

1. In what year did the number of farms in the United States peak at 6.8 million?
2. What botanist developed more than 300 uses for peanuts, from recipes to industrial products?
3. Where did the expression “go whole hog” come from?
4. What US President signed legislation creating the U.S. Department of Agriculture?
5. In Colonial New York City, Manhattan residents erected a wall to keep rampaging free-ranging hogs away from their homes. At what street, now a famous financial district, was that wall erected?
6. Who is credited with inventing in 1924 the quick-freeze method that produces the types of frozen foods we have today?
7. During the Civil War, the Confederate Army boiled down what crop as a source for sugar and molasses?
8. Who introduced denim to the United States from France, where it originated?
9. What versatile legume that is also a highly nutritious animal feed was first brought to the United States as ship ballast?
10. Who first introduced French fries to the White House during his presidency?
11. This American innovator once made a car with all the plastic parts, even the exterior, from soybeans. Who was he?
12. The origin of the iron moldboard plow can be traced back to 500 BC in what country?
13. Who invented the steel plow in 1837?
14. In 1809 a French confectioner invented this process to preserve foods. What is it?
15. What Spanish explorer is credited as “father of the American pork industry” by landing with America’s first 13 pigs at Tampa Bay, Florida in 1539?
16. Marilyn Monroe was crowned the first-ever queen of this vegetable in 1947. What is it?
17. What process did Louis Pasteur develop in 1862, that’s used to slow microbial growth, particularly in milk?
18. In 1900, farmers made up about what percent of the work force?
19. The Greek vs. Persian Battle of Marathon is said to have been fought on a field of what licorice-flavored herb?
20. Who invented the cotton gin, which revolutionized the processing of cotton bolls?

Answers

1. 1935
2. *George Washington Carver*
3. *18th century English shilling coin was called a hog; someone willing to spend his entire shilling was going whole hog.*
4. *Abraham Lincoln*
5. *Wall Street*
6. *Clarence Birdseye*
7. *Watermelons*
8. *Levi Strauss*
9. *Soybeans*
10. *Thomas Jefferson*
11. *Henry Ford*
12. *Egypt*
13. *John Deere*
14. *Canning, invented by Nicolas Appert, who used an airtight seal to keep food from spoiling.*
15. *Hernando de Soto*
16. *Artichoke*
17. *Pasteurization*
18. *About 40 percent (38%)*
19. *Fennel*
20. *Eli Whitney*

reprinted from Ag in the Classroom

**Camden County
Soil & Water
Conservation
District
Board of
Supervisors**



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SWCD assistance is available without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or marital status.

Forage Calendar

June

- Cut warm season grasses for hay or graze as needed to fill the forage gap.
- Monitor rest periods on grazing systems as cool season grass growth is starting to slow down. Longer rest periods are needed to adequately feed the herd.
- Harvest fescue seed for a cash crop.

July

- Monitor the weather. Look for critical heat index days and provide some paddocks with shade.
- Watch grazing heights, as longer rest periods are needed to feed the herd. Grazing height and rest periods are critical for legume survival.
- Evaluate fields for brush and weed control needs. Make notes on invader species.
- Take soil samples for fall seedings

August

- At mid-month apply nitrogen fertilizer to fescue for stockpiled forage.
- Complete fall seedings as planned or needed in order to improve the forage base.

REMEMBER: Pastures are the cheapest place to feed livestock.

Footprints in the Grass

**Camden Soil & Water
Conservation District**

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