

NRCS Species for Plant Collections 2011

Desmodium Sp.

Scientific Name:

Desmodium canadense
Desmodium canescens
Desmodium cuspidatum
Desmodium glutinosum
Desmodium laevigatum
Desmodium lineatum
Desmodium nudiflorum
Desmodium obtusum
Desmodium paniculatum
Desmodium pauciflorum
Desmodium perplexum
Desmodium rotundifolium
Desmodium viridiflorum

Common Name:

Ticktrefoil
Stick Tights
Beggar's Lice



Morphological Characteristics:

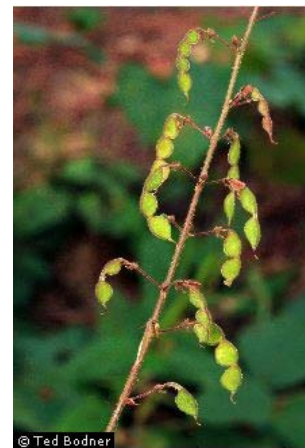
Habit- native, warm season, perennial, legume reaching 1 to 6ft tall; flowers mid-summer, July - August and reproduces by seed

Leaves- vary in shape depending on species but will be compound, trifoliate in nature arranged alternately along the stem

Flowers- small, purple, pea like flowers, arranged in clusters along the ends of the stems, some may have a pair of yellow spots,

Fruit- small, bean like, pods covered in tiny hooked hairs that act similar to Velcro and stick to clothing giving them the common name Stick Tights. Pods usually have 3-5 section, and separate easily

Habitat and Range: widely distributed and adapted to a wide array of soil types from coarse sands to fine clays, but typically favors moist soils



Conservation Use:

Why collect this plant? Texas Plant Materials Centers have identified this plant as having potential benefits to the following conservation practice standards: 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, 342 Critical Area Planting, 562 Recreation Area Improvement, 550 Range Planting,

and 327 Conservation Cover. Your assistance in collecting this plant helps support the NRCS conservation practice standards which are employed daily to conserve the natural resources of Texas!

Centers Requesting Seed: East Texas Plant Materials Center

How to Collect Seed:

1. Identify native plant stands in your area. You can go to the following websites for helpful photos <http://www.plants.usda.gov> , <http://www.noble.org/imagegallery/index.html> or www.wildflower.org
2. Determine if seed is mature. Mature seed is typically dry and will easily separate from the seed head.
3. Hand strip mature seed by grasping the bottom of the seed head then gently pulling away from the base of the plant. Deposit seed in a brown paper sack. Collect seed from a minimum of 30 to 50 plants.
4. Label each collection as it is made so collections do not get mixed up. Information required includes: Collector's name, number of plants collected, location (parish, city, highway, and GPS coordinates), site description (soil type, slope, and plants growing in association).
5. Complete NRCS-ECS-580; Plant Collection Information Form and mail with collected seeds to the NRCS Plant Materials Center requesting the species.

East Texas Plant Materials Center
SFA Experiment Forest FM 2782
Nacogdoches, TX 75964

Helpful Tips:

Look for superior plants that display differences in color, height, or forage abundance and record observations. Differences in growing site or location should be made into separate collections if they are separated by more than 1 mile between sites.

Other Photos:



Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. *An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions*. 3 vols. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. Vol. 2: 400

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