



# SEED COLLECTION REQUEST

**Common Name:** Golden Prairie Clover, Golden Dalea (DAAU)

**Scientific Name:** *Dalea aurea* Nutt. ex Pursh

## Morphological Characteristics:

- Perennial, native, warm-season forb (herb)
- Thick woody root system producing several pale, upright, wand-like stems (1½ - 2 feet tall)
- Leaves are gray-green, alternate, hairy on top and gland-dotted underneath, and approximately 2-inches long
- One slender, silky-soft, hairy, cylindrical spike flower forms on top of each stem with bright yellow flowers
- Fruit is a small, silky, hairy, legume pod that emits a strong fragrance when crushed
- Often seen growing on dryer, shallower sites
- Palatable to livestock, and deer consume the leaves and flowers
- Bees and other pollinators regularly visit flowers
- Good seed value for game and songbirds



Photo Courtesy of Joseph A. Marcus, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



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## Conservation Use:

Why collect this plant? Texas Plant Materials Centers have identified this plant as having potential benefits to the following conservation practice standards:

- 327 Conservation Cover
- 342 Critical Area Planting
- 420 Wildlife Habitat Planting
- 550 Range Planting
- 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
- 647 Early Successional Habitat Development/Management

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

## Center Requesting Seed:

USDA-NRCS James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center  
3950 FM 1292 Suite 100  
Knox City, TX 79529

## How to Collect Seed:

1. Identify native plant stands in your area.

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 bag or seed envelope.
  - a. Please do not use a plastic bag
  - b. Moisture will collect and mold seed.
4. Collect seed from a minimum of 30-50 plants.
5. Label each collection as it is made so collections do not get mixed up. Information required includes:
  - a. Collector's name, number of plants, and date collected
  - b. Location (county, city highway, and GPS coordinates)
  - c. Site description (soil type, slope, and plants growing in association).
6. Complete NRCS-ECS-580, plant collection information form, and mail with collected seed to the NRCS Plant Materials Center requesting the collection.

**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.

**Other Photos:**



Photo Courtesy of Campbell and Lynn Loughmiller, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.



Photo Courtesy of Norman G. Flaigg, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.



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