

Year 2011



Progress Report of Activities

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Jimmy Carter Plant Materials Center

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A brief summary of year 2011 accomplishments follows. For a complete account of all activities request the 2011 Technical Report of Activities at the above address.

MILE BRANCH LANDING DEDICATION IN HAWKINSVILLE, GEORGIA

On May 19, 2011 the Mile Branch Landing dedication was celebrated in Hawkinsville, Georgia. The celebration was part of the Hawkinsville-Pulaski Riverfront Park Initiative. The Riverfront Park is a segment of the National Park Services' proposed Ocmulgee River Blueway from Macon, Georgia to Lumber City, Georgia which will connect to the Altamaha River and continue on to Darien, Georgia and the Atlantic Ocean. Much of Hawkinsville and Pulaski County's heritage and history are tied to its location along the banks of the Ocmulgee River. The Ocmulgee served as the shipping lane for much of the nineteenth century from Central Georgia to Darien. The Riverfront Park will provide access to these historical and cultural aspects of the river in Hawkinsville through several fixed information stations. The riverfront park will also provide recreational opportunities to the public such as fishing, boating and canoeing. The Jimmy Carter PMC helped establish a nature trail along Mile Branch Creek and the Ocmulgee River with signs to identify plants that constitute the floodplain forest. Signs identify trees and shrubs however future signs will identify more herbaceous plants.



Mile Branch Boat Landing Sign



Ocmulgee at Riverfront Park

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Local Students at Information Station

It also provides a quick reference table of the above mentioned information.



***Liatrix elegans*-Pinkscale Blazing Star**



Plants Identified Along Nature Trail



***Centrosema virginianum*-Spurred Butterfly Pea**

NEW PUBLICATIONS FOR PMC IN 2011

The Jimmy Carter PMC in cooperation with the East National Technology Support Center in Greensboro, North Carolina produced **Native Understory Forbs and Grasses for Pollinator and Insect Utilization in Southeastern Longleaf Pine Ecosystems**. The new publication provides information on 17 native forbs (legumes, milkweed, and composites) and 14 native grasses for pollinator and restoration projects in the Southeastern U.S. It includes plant pictures and descriptions, bloom dates, number of seed per pound, pounds of seed per acre, prices of seed per pound, and seed sources.



***Aristida beyrichiana*-Wiregrass**

The Jimmy Carter PMC and the East National Technology Support Center in Greensboro produced a new **Plant Fact Sheet - Longleaf Pine**. This publication was produced to supplement the previous document. It contains uses of longleaf pine including: erosion control, wildlife management, wood and tree products, restoration and recreation. Plant description and adaptation are presented. Establishment and management of longleaf pine are detailed.

Updated **Plant Fact Sheets on Switchgrass, Big Bluestem, and Indiangrass** were produced in 2011. Plant description, adaptation, establishment, management, potential problems and environmental concerns are emphasized. Uses of these three versatile grasses are explained. Uses include forage for livestock, erosion control, wildlife management, plant community restoration, pollinator establishment and biofuel production.



Longleaf Pine provides Habitat for Wildlife



Switchgrass for Erosion Control in Piedmont of South Carolina



Longleaf Pine on Flatwoods Site



Big Bluestem in Native Mix for Bobwhite Quail Restoration



Cattle Grazing Indiangrass in Georgia Coastal Plain

ALAMO SWITCHGRASS GROWTH CURVE

In 2010 and 2011 the Jimmy Carter PMC conducted an ‘Alamo’ switchgrass growth curve clipping test. The data collected plots growth of the switchgrass in dry matter production by clip dated in April, May, June, July, August, September and October. This growth curve data can be used by grazing specialists and agronomists to predict Alamo switchgrass growth for specific plantings.



Switchgrass Growth Curve Test at PMC

WHO WE ARE

The Jimmy Carter Plant Materials Center (PMC) is a branch of the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service. It is one of 27 plant materials centers located throughout the United States. The Center is located on the Northwest corner of Americus in Southwestern Georgia and is approximately 40 miles North of Albany. Areas served include Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina and parts of Tennessee and Florida.

WHAT WE DO

It is our mission to use plant materials and state-of-the-art plant science technology to solve natural resource problems and meet the objectives of environmental programs. Our program emphasizes using native plants. We develop, test and release superior adapted plants to commercial growers along with production and management technology. Our mission addresses three major objectives:

1. Native Grasses for grazing lands that support sustainable agriculture and wildlife habitat.
2. Native plants for restoration, pollinator enhancement, erosion control, wildlife habitat, conservation buffers, filter strips, constructed wetlands.
3. Conservation tillage (green manure, organic gardening, carbon sequestration, and winter cover)