FINAL REPORT

Distribution of Posters and Implementation of a Logo to Identify Native Plants Available for Landscaping

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The overall goal of this project was to heighten awareness of native plants that are available in the nursery industry along with their horticultural traits, as well as, to increase the demand and usage of native plants by gardeners.

The specific objectives of this proposal were:

- 1. To print color *posters* that highlight horticultural uses of native plants, and to distribute them to garden centers, nature centers, schools, and county extension offices (especially for use by Master Gardeners).
- 2. To implement the use of a *statewide logo* that provides quick identification of native Illinois plants on labels used for individual species in garden centers and retail plant nurseries, and on other printed materials that promote usage of native plants in landscaping

How objectives were met.

Objective 1. Print and Distribute Posters. We created posters of four designs (various microclimates, four season appeal, wildlife appeal, and growth habits). A copy of each design is enclosed (both an electronic copy and a small hard copy version). Fifty posters (2 X 3 ft) of each design were printed. Sets of these four posters were distributed to nurseries, nature centers, schools, county extension offices, and others (see attached list). When delivered, we discussed the usage of native plants in landscaping and referred them to consult our website or us for additional information. We also have arranged with Dave Bender (Executive Director) of the Illinois Green Industry Association (IGIA) to announce the availability of our posters in "Growing Trends", a monthly publication of IGIA. He also will work with us to find a way to print more posters if the demand is great.

Objective 2. Implement Use of Statewide Logo. Several logo designs were submitted, and the Illinois Invasive Plant Species Council narrowed them to three. Then the Council recommended that we (Janice Coons and Nancy Coutant) work with Dave Bender and the Illinois Green Industry Association to select the final logo and to develop its implementation. From the final three designs, one was selected (electronic and hard copies attached). This logo was introduced at the Illinois State Fair (2008) by the Illinois Green Industry Association. Janice and Nancy will meet with the Growers Committee of the Illinois Green Industry at their November meeting to discuss steps for implementation of the use of this logo including for what species the logo will be used, how to print and distribute labels, as well as other considerations that arise. A list will be developed to identify those nursery plants that are native to Illinois. Once a protocol is developed and accepted by the Illinois Green Industry, use of this logo will be implemented. Initial implementation of this logo may begin in 2009, depending on what issues are faced along the way.

Distribution of Poster Sets that Demonstrate

Horticultural Traits of Illinois Native Species

Garden Centers and Plant Nurseries

Alwerdt's Garden Altamont, IL

Barkley Farms Nurseries Paris, IL

Bill's Backyard Inc. Mattoon, IL

Buxton's Garden Farm Sullivan, IL

Casey's Garden Shop Bloomington, IL

Cedar Lake Gardens and Gifts Decatur, IL

Country Arbors Urbana, IL

D.A. Hoerr & Sons Inc. Peoria, IL

Green View Nursery, Inc. Dunlap, IL

Growing Grounds Showplace Bloomington, IL

Home & Garden Center

Kiefer Landscaping L. L. C. Effingham, IL

Maxedon Landscaping Inc. Effingham, IL

My Garden Sullivan, IL

Nosbisch Nursery, Inc. Effingham, IL

Owen Nursery & Florist Bloomington, IL

Possibility Place Nursery Monee, IL

Prairie Gardens Champaign, IL

Sims' Greenhouse Mattoon, IL

The Garden Path Decatur, IL

Wendell Niepagen Greenhouses Bloomington, IL

& Garden Center

Nature Centers

Anita Purves Nature Center Urbana, IL

Ballard Nature Center Altamont, IL

Douglas-Hart Nature Center Mattoon, IL

Forest Park Nature Center Peoria, IL

Sugar Grove Nature Center McLean, IL

Schools

Downers Grove South High School Downers Grove, IL

Eastern Illinois University Charleston, IL

(Biological Sciences Department)

Eastern Illinois University Charleston, IL

(Booth Library)

Illinois State University Normal, IL

(Grounds Department)

Lake Land College Mattoon, IL

(Biological Sciences Program)

Lake Land College Mattoon, IL

(Horticulture Program)

County Extension Offices

Champaign County Extension Office Champaign, IL

Coles County Extension Office Charleston, IL

Other

Illinois Green Industry Association Springfield, IL

(Main Office)

Luthy Botanical Garden Peoria, IL

The remaining set of posters will be distributed at the September 9, 2008 meeting of the Illinois Invasive Plant Species Council which is scheduled to be at Hoffie Nursery in the Chicago area, where representatives from many large nurseries will be invited to attend in addition to Council members. Distribution at this meeting will help to increase awareness of the availability of these posters.







Round-Fruited St. John's Wort

Hypericum sphaerocarpum



Wild Strawberry

Dodecatheon meadia

Fragaria virginiana



























