

Title and Number of Planting: Dot & Doug Wade Prairie 2013 Planting #110

Authors of this History: Al and Mary Meier

Revision Date: 4/5/2016

Site Conditions:

Location: Ogle County, Taylor Township 22N, Range 10E, Section 16. This planting is approximately 3.30 acres in size. The northern half of the planting is rectangular in shape, but the southern portion is irregular, following the northern edge of Dot's Knob. The GPS coordinates of the boundary corners are:

Southwest corner: N 41°53'36.1', W 089°21'12.2'
Northwest corner: N 41°53'38.9', W 089°21'12.1'
Northeast corner: N 41°53'38.7', W 089°21'3.2'
Southeast corner: N 41°53'37.7', W 089°21'3.3'

The site is bordered by an old field (former pine plantation) area of Dot's Knob on the southeast, Dot's Knob prairie remnant on the southwest, Dot & Doug Wade Prairie 2010 Planting #99 on the west, a weedy 1/8 acre drainage area on the northwest, a cornfield (future restoration) on the north, and a fence line and mowed yard (off property) on the east.

Soil Types: According to the Ogle County Soil Survey, soils include:

Most of the planting: #397D Bonne sand, 7 to 15% slopes

Western edge of the planting: #223C2 Varna silt loam, 10 to 15% slopes

Southwestern corner: 727B Waukee loam, 1 to 5% slopes

Topographic Features: The entire planting slopes markedly from east to west and gently from both the north and south edges towards the middle. According to Google Earth, there is a difference in elevation of more than 35 feet between the northwest corner and the drainage area in the southwest of the planting. There is a drainage that runs from the northeast to the southwest.

Site History:

This planting probably had been in row crop production from at least 1939 until 1994. The 1939 aerial photo is a little dark over this area, but it appears to already be in row crops. The 1958 aerial clearly shows that the planting was in row crops at that time and continuously until 1994, when Bill Kleiman, Kevin Kaltenbach, and a few other stewards spread combine mix, not hand-collected mix, over the entire field that includes this planting. The mix contained mostly little bluestem. They did not plant enough seed, nor did they cover the planting evenly. They had expected to add more seed, but ran out. This planting did poorly, filling in with cool season grasses, some native prairie plants, and a lot of Rubus, invasive honeysuckle, and box elder seedlings from the fence line to the west.

Bill soon wanted to put the site back in corn, but Gene St. Louis, the unit's steward, decided to over-seed it instead. The field languished for a decade. It was mowed once or twice a year to knock down the woody plants. Gene over-seeded a good mix of species, but there was no apparent improvement. After several years of over-seeding, Bill had a farmer spray the area in the fall with a mix of Crossbow and Roundup. Then the farmer plowed it and planted corn in the spring. The corn was in this planting for ten years.

Site Preparations:

After the 2013 corn crop was harvested, steward Al Meier staked out the planting. On November 15, the crew burned the corn stubble, which burned thoroughly.

Seed Planting:

Al and Mary Meier and twelve volunteers, mostly from local colleges, mixed the seeds in the Morton building on November 16. On November 25, Al planted the General seed mix on one inch of snow, which had fallen the previous day. He used a McCormick drop seeder/lime spreader pulled by a UTV. Three complete passes were made over the entire planting. On the first pass, Al used the tire tracks in the snow to direct the path of the seeder. On the subsequent passes, orange cones were used to mark the route of the seeder.

The Dry, Wet Mesic, and Step-in mixes were hand-planted on November 27 and 28 by Al and Mary, after the snow had melted. The Wet Mesic mix was spread in the bottom of the drainage area mentioned in the Topographic Features section, and the Dry mix was sown mostly in the sandy northwestern quadrant of the planting. Cody Considine harrowed the planting on December 2, after it had had a chance to dry out. Al completed the final hand-planting on December 3.

Seed List:

Approximately 304 pounds of seed (including chaff and stems) were planted. A total of 139 species were included. Most of the seed was hand-harvested by Alan and Mary Meier, all of it in 2013. No machine-harvested little bluestem was available this year. The bulk seed per acre average weight was 92 pounds.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Lbs.	Mix and Comments
<i>Agrimonia pubescens</i>	Soft Agrimony	0.10	50% General; 50% Wet Mesic
<i>Allium cernuum</i>	Nodding Wild Onion	0.73	General
<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Lead Plant	12.80	80% General; 20% Step-in
<i>Anemone canadensis</i>	Meadow Anemone	0.13	Wet Mesic
<i>Anemone cylindrica</i>	Thimbleweed	1.55	General
<i>Antennaria neglecta</i>	Field Cat's Foot	0.13	General
<i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i>	Pussy Toes	1.53	General
<i>Apocynum androsaemifolium</i>	Spreading Dogbane	0.28	General

<i>Aristida purpurascens</i>	Arrow Feather (3-awn grass)	0.28	Dry
<i>Artemisia caudata (campestris)</i>	Beech Wormwood	0.38	General
<i>Asclepias amplexicaulis</i>	Sand Milkweed	0.03	handplant
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Common Milkweed	0.03	General
<i>Asclepias verticallata</i>	Whorled milkweed	0.68	General
<i>Aster azureus</i>	Sky-blue Aster	2.28	General
<i>Aster ericoides</i>	Heath Aster	4.48	General
<i>Aster laevis</i>	Smooth Aster	4.18	General
<i>Aster linariifolius</i>	Stiff Aster	1.95	Dry
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England Aster	0.58	General
<i>Aster oblongifolius</i>	Aromatic Aster	0.60	75% General; 25% Dry
<i>Aster ptarmicoides</i>	White Aster	0.05	Dry
<i>Aster sericeus</i>	Silky Aster	1.95	General
<i>Astragalus canadensis</i>	Canada Milk Vetch	0.75	General
<i>Baptisia leucantha</i>	White Wild Indigo	11.08	General
<i>Baptisia leucophaea</i>	Cream Wild Indigo	13.83	75% General; 25% Step-in
<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	Side Oats Gramma	2.50	General
<i>Cacalia atriplicifolia</i>	Pale Indian Plantain	1.48	General
<i>Cacalia plantaginea (tuberosa)</i>	Indian Plantain	0.30	Wet Mesic
<i>Carex bicknellii</i>	Bicknell's sedge	1.60	General
<i>Carex muehlenbergii</i>	Sedge Mix	0.35	General
<i>Carex pennsylvanica</i>	Common Oak (Penn) Sedge	0.08	Step-in
<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	Brown Fox Sedge	0.40	Wet Mesic
<i>Cassia fasciculata</i>	Partridge Pea	0.03	Dry
<i>Castilleja sessiliflora</i>	Downy Yellow Painted Cup	0.25	Dry
<i>Chrysopsis camporum</i>	Golden Prairie Aster	0.30	General
<i>Comandra umbellata</i>	False Toadflax	0.18	General
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	Sand Coreopsis	0.08	Dry
<i>Coreopsis palmata</i>	Prairie Coreopsis	4.90	General
<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i>	Tall Coreopsis	0.90	General
<i>Cyperus filiculmis</i>	Slender Sand Sedge	0.08	Dry
<i>Danthonia spicata</i>	Poverty Oat Grass	0.45	Dry
<i>Desmodium illinoense</i>	Illinois Tick Trefoil	0.25	General
<i>Dodecantheon meadia</i>	Shooting Star	1.60	General
<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	Pale Purple Coneflower	35.15	General
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada Wild Rye	4.60	General
<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>	Purple Love Grass	0.30	General
<i>Erigeron strigosus</i>	Daisy Fleabane	0.48	General
<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	Rattlesnake Master	3.05	50% General; 50% Wet Mesic
<i>Eupatorium altissimum</i>	Tall Boneset	0.15	General
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	Flowering Spurge	3.48	General
<i>Gaura biennis pitcheri</i>	Common Gaura	0.13	General
<i>Gentiana (alba) flavida</i>	Cream Gentian	0.75	General
<i>Gentiana puberulenta</i>	Prairie Gentian	0.60	67% Step-in; 33% General

<i>Geum triflorum</i>	Prairie Smoke	0.01	Dry handplant
<i>Helianthemum canadense</i>	Common Rockrose (Frostweed)	1.45	50% General; 50% Step-in
<i>Helianthus occidentalis</i>	Western Sunflower	3.38	General
<i>Helianthus rigidus (laetiflorus)</i>	Prairie Sunflower	0.05	General
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	False Sunflower	0.98	50% General; 50% Wet Mesic
<i>Heuchera richardsonii grayana</i>	Alum Root	0.08	General
<i>Hieracium longipilum</i>	Hairy Hawkweed	0.03	Dry
<i>Houstonia longifolia</i>	Long-Leaved Bluets	0.05	Dry
<i>Hypoxis hirsuta</i>	Yellow Star Grass	0.01	Step-in
<i>Juncus interior</i>	Inland Rush	1.40	General
<i>Juncus tenuis</i>	Path Rush	0.05	General
<i>Koeleria cristata</i>	Prairie June Grass	2.75	General
<i>Krigia virginica</i>	Dwarf Dandelion	0.03	Dry
<i>Kuhnia eupatorioides</i>	False Boneset	3.60	General
<i>Lechea stricta</i>	Bushy Pinweed	0.10	50% Step-in; 50% General
<i>Lechea tenuifolia</i>	Slender-Leaved Pinweed	1.35	General
<i>Lechea villosa</i>	Hairy Pinweed	0.50	30% Step-in; 70% General
<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	Round-headed Bush Clover	5.60	General
<i>Liatris aspera</i>	Rough Blazing Star	21.25	General
<i>Liatris cylindracea</i>	Dwarf Blazingstar	0.08	Dry
<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>	Prairie Blazing Star	5.00	General
<i>Linaria canadensis</i>	Blue Toadflax	0.03	Dry
<i>Linum sulcatum</i>	Grooved Yellow Flax	0.01	Dry
<i>Lithospermum canescens</i>	Hoary Puccoon	0.01	Step-in
<i>Lithospermum incisum</i>	Fringed Puccoon	0.01	Dry
<i>Lobelia spicata</i>	Pale-spiked Lobelia	0.03	Step-in
<i>Lupinus perennis</i>	Wild Lupine	0.35	General
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Wild Bergamot	0.80	50% General; 50% Wet Mesic
<i>Monarda punctata villicualis</i>	Horse Mint	0.30	General
<i>Oenothera clelandii</i>	Sand Evening Primrose	0.15	General
<i>Oenothera clelandii</i>	Sand Evening Primrose	0.05	General
<i>Onosmodium hispidissimum</i>	Marbleseed	0.20	60% Dry; 40% General
<i>Oxalis violacea</i>	Violet Wood Sorrel	0.04	Step-in
<i>Panicum oligosanthes</i>	Scribner's Panic Grass	0.60	General
<i>Panicum villosissimum</i>	White-Haired Panic Grass	0.08	Dry
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Prairie Switch Grass	0.10	General
<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>	Wild Quinine	12.85	General
<i>Penstemon hirsutus</i>	Hairy Beard tongue	1.38	General
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	Foxglove Beard Tongue	0.70	General
<i>Penstemon grandiflorus</i>	Large beard-tongue	0.03	Dry
<i>Petalostemum (Dalea) candidum</i>	White Prairie Clover	1.63	General
<i>Petalostemum (Dalea) purpurea</i>	Purple Prairie Clover	15.35	General
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	Ninebark	0.18	General

<i>Polygala polygama obtusata</i>	Purple Milkwort	0.01	Dry
<i>Polygala sanguinea</i>	Field Milkwort	0.01	Step-in
<i>Polytaenia nuttallii</i>	Prairie Parsley	0.05	General
<i>Potentilla arguta</i>	Prairie Tall Cinquefoil	2.40	General
<i>Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium</i>	Sweet Everlasting	0.08	General
<i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i>	Slender Mountain Mint	1.08	General
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	Mountain mint	1.80	General
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	Yellow Coneflower	0.18	Wet Mesic
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	Pasture Rose	6.28	General (incl some stems)
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black-eyed Susan	0.63	General
<i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i>	Sweet Black Eyed Susan	0.93	Wet Mesic
<i>Salix humilis</i>	Prairie Willow	0.20	General
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem	30.25	General (hand cut)
<i>Scrophularia lanceolata</i>	Early Figwort	0.13	General
<i>Scutellaria parvula leonardi</i>	Small Skullcap	0.01	Dry
<i>Senecio pauperculus</i>	Balsom Ragwort	0.23	General
<i>Silene antirrhina</i>	Sleepy Catchfly	0.01	Dry
<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	Rosin Weed	2.43	60% General; 40% Wet Mesic
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	Compass Plant	5.50	General
<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	Cup Plant	1.03	40% General; 60% Wet Mesic
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	Prairie Dock	1.20	General
<i>Sisyrinchium albidum</i>	Common Blue-eyed Grass	0.10	General
<i>Solidago (Euthamia) graminifolia</i>	Viscid Bushy Goldenrod	1.40	General
<i>Solidago grammifolia</i>	Grass-Leaved Goldenrod	3.65	General
<i>Solidago missouriensis</i>	Missouri Goldenrod	0.65	General
<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>	Old Field Goldenrod	1.78	General
<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	Showy Goldenrod	0.70	General
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	Prairie Dropseed	5.53	General (cut, not stripped)
<i>Stipa spartea</i>	Porcupine Grass	0.08	Dry handplant (500+)
<i>Talinum rugospermum</i>	Sand Fameflower	0.01	Dry
<i>Tephrosia virginiana</i>	Goat's Rue	7.70	General
<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>	Common Spiderwort	6.78	General
<i>Triosteum aurantiacum</i>	Orange-fruited Horse Gentian	3.45	General
<i>Venus' Looking Glass</i>	Specularia perfoliata	0.01	Dry
<i>Verbena hastata</i>	Blue Vervain	0.70	General
<i>Verbena stricta</i>	Hoary vervain	2.43	General
<i>Verbena urticifolia</i>	White Vervain	1.10	General
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's Root	2.90	General
<i>Viola pedata</i>	Birdsfoot Violet	0.04	Step-in
<i>Viola pedatifida</i>	Prairie Violet	0.10	Step-in
<i>Viola sagittata</i>	Arrow-leaved Violet	0.01	Step-in
<i>Wulfenia bullii</i>	Kittentails	0.63	General

<i>Zizia aptera</i>	Heart-leaved Meadow Parsnip	0.70	General
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	Golden Alexander	1.73	General
Total seed weight		304.05	
Total species count		139	

Map:





Seed processing workday Photo by Emmylou Studier



2014 Follow up notes

In November 2014, 12 lbs. of Little Bluestem (*Andropogon scoparium*) were overseeded on the planting. In addition, 11.3 lbs. of the 2014 General Mix, consisting of 99 different species, were raked into an area that had washed out after heavy spring rains.

2015 Follow up notes

In December 2015, these seeds were stepped in to the soil, mostly on the sandy northern slope:

Scientific Name	Common Name	Lbs.
<i>Antennaria neglecta</i>	Field Cat's Foot	0.10
<i>Aster linariifolius</i>	Stiff Aster	3.30
<i>Baptisia leucophaea</i>	Cream Wild Indigo	3.50
<i>Castilleja sessiliflora</i>	Downy Yellow Painted Cup	0.05
<i>Chrysopsis camporum (Heterotheca)</i>	Golden Prairie Aster	0.20
<i>Cirsium hillii</i>	Hills Thistle	0.05
<i>Comandra umbellata</i>	False Toadflax	0.20
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	Sand Coreopsis	0.10
<i>Geum triflorum</i>	Prairie Smoke	0.01
<i>Heuchera richardsonii grayana</i>	Alum Root	0.01
<i>Hieracium longipilum</i>	Hairy Hawkweed	0.05
<i>Lobelia spicata</i>	Pale-spiked Lobelia	0.10
<i>Panicum oligoanthos</i>	Scribners	0.50
<i>Panicum villosissimum</i>	White-Haired Panic Grass	1.50
<i>Prenanthes aspera</i>	Rough White Lettuce	0.20
<i>Stipa spartea</i>	Porcupine Grass	0.25
<i>Talinum rugospermum</i>	Sand Fameflower	0.01

2016 Follow up notes

The planting was burned in March 2016. The burn was very thorough over the entire planting.