

Ecological Restoration

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Front Cover Feature: Agronomic production for large scale restoration may impose maternal effects or natural selection on population of native grasses, affecting success in restoration projects. Erin Espeland and Laurie Richardson compare seed production environment on the success of restoration plantings of western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum smithii*) and green needlegrass (*Nassella viridula*). By the second growing season, they found no difference in plant performance between wild-collected and agronomically-grown seed sources. Additionally, sowing annual forbs with perennial grasses in large-scale restorations appears to promote perennial grass growth. Pictured here is green needlegrass harvest at Bismarck Plant Materials Center, North Dakota. Photo credit: USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center, Bismarck, ND.

Back Cover Features:


Top: The invasive ornamental Mexican petunia (*Ruellia simplex*) displacing native plant communities in floodplains at the Lake Jesup Conservation Area, Sanford, FL, USA. Photo credit: Adrienne M. Smith

Middle: Breeding lines of smooth cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*) for coastal habitat restoration maintained at the Rice Research Station, Louisiana State University AgCenter, LA, USA. Photo credit: Herry Utomo.

Bottom: Volunteers remove the invasive shrub, Amur bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*), as part of a civic ecology practice in Indianapolis, IN. Photo credit: Daniel Axler.

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