UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
KNOX CITY, TEXAS

And

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT
KERR WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
HUNT, TEXAS

NOTICE OF RELEASE OF KERR GERMPLASM WRIGHT PAVONIA SELECTED CLASS OF NATURAL GERMPLASM

The Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Kerr Wildlife Management Area announce the release of a selected ecotype of Wright pavonia, *Pavonia lasiopetala* Scheele.

As a selected release this plant will be referred to as Kerr Germplasm Wright pavonia. It has been assigned the Plant Introduction (PI) number 477968. Kerr Germplasm is released as a selected class of certified seed (natural track).

This alternative release procedure is justified because there are presently no commercial varieties of Wright pavonia available.

Collection Site Information: Kerr Germplasm was originally collected by RC Malden and sent to the old SCS San Antonio Nursery in the early 60's. After the nursery closed the germplasm was moved the Waco, TX and later to the Knox City PMC in 1966. Seed produced at Knox City PMC from the original germplasm was used to establish a native population at the Texas Parks and Wildlife - Kerr Wildlife Management Area near Hunt, TX. This site will be designated as the home collection site for Kerr Germplasm. (N. Lat. 30° 04', W Long 99° 31'). Elevation at the collection site is approximately 1761 feet; soils at the collection site are classified as Eckrant-Comfort association, and Eckrant-Rock outcrop association. Average precipitation for the area is around 27 inches. Other plants growing in association included sideoats grama, little bluestem, liveoak and Engelmanndaisy. The collection site is located in MLRA 81B - Central Edwards Plateau.

Description: Kerr Germplasm is a native perennial, warm-season, small shrub. Showy rose-red or pink flowers are borne on herbaceous stems rising from a woody base. Flowering and seed set is indeterminate throughout the summer and early fall in northern areas and may occur year around within the southern areas of adaptation. Leaves are heart-shaped with three coarsely toothed lobes. Wright pavonia may grow as high as four feet with a spread of three feet. Plants are highly palatable and utilized by all classes of livestock and deer. Wright pavonia has been almost eliminated from heavily stocked ranges. Wright pavonia occurs from western Texas through the Texas Hill Country and up into the southern Rolling Plains and down into Rio Grande Plains. Plants reproduce from seed and are considered good re-seeders.

Method of Breeding and/or Selection: Kerr Germplasm is a single collection selected for its palatability to livestock and wildlife, and its ascetic value when used in native landscapes. See attachment 1 for a summary of evaluations from 1971 until 1979 and seed production estimates.

Environmental Impact Assessment: Kerr Germplasm Wright pavonia is a selection of naturally occurring germplasm and has been unaltered from its original collection. Kerr Germplasm did not meet the assessment of a plant which could become invasive based literature reviews and the attached "Invasive Species Worksheet" (see attachment 2).

Conservation Use: Kerr Germplasm may be used in pure stands or as a component in seed mixtures for range seeding. Wright pavonia reseeds itself readily on rangeland where the plants are protected from overgrazing. It may be used for beautification and low input native landscapes. Its forage value is highly palatable to all livestock, white-tailed deer and many exotic herbivores. Wildlife will utilize the plants and seed for food. Plants used in perennial food plots for whit-tailed deer will have to be protected and managed using limited access areas.

Anticipated Area of Adaptation: Kerr Germplasm's anticipated areas of adaptation are MLRAs 78B,C,D, 80B, 81A,B,C, 82, 83A,B, 84B, and parts of 85, 86A and 87A. Wright pavonia is adapted to a wide range of soil types but will perform best on well drained sandy to medium textured soils.

Availability of Plant Materials: Generation 0 seed (equivalent to Breeder seed) will be maintained by the USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center at Knox City, Texas and is available in limited quantities to interested parties for increase purposes.

References:

Correll D.S., Johnston M.S., Manual of the Vascular Plants of Texas, 1970, TX Research Foundation.

USDA-SCS Soil Survey, Kerr Texas, 1986.

Hatch,S.L., Checklist of the Vascular Plants of Texas, TX Ag Exper. Stn., TAMU, 1990.

Nokes, J., How to Grow Native Plants of Texas and the Southwest, Texas Monthly Press, 1986.

Rickett,H.W., Wild Flowers of the United States, McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1969.

Prepared by:

USDA-NRCS, Plant Materials Center, 3776 FM 1292, Knox City, TX 79529, 940-658-3922.

Signatures for release of :

Kerr Germplasm Wright pavonia (*Pavonia lasiopetala*)

Name
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Kerr Wildlife Management Area
Hunt, Texas

2-1-00
Date

Name
John P. Burt, State Conservationist
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Temple, Texas

2-15-00
Date

Name
for Director, Ecological Sciences Division
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Washington, D.C.

3/2/00
Date

Attachment 1: Summary of Initial Evaluation of *Pavonia lasiopetala*, Wright pavonia

[redacted]

Evaluation Year	Vigor	Seed Prod	Leaf Prod	Disease Res.	Foliage Ht.(in)	Foliage Wt.(in)	Stand Rtng
1971	3	3	-	-	15	30	1
1972	3	3	3	1	90	100	3
1973	3	3	3	1	75	90	5
1974	3	5	3	1	30	50	7
1975	3	3	3	1	85	120	3
1976	3	3	3	3	80	100	1
1977	3	5	5	3	60	100	1
1978	7	5	5	5	30	35	7
1979	5	7	5	3	80	120	3

Evaluation ratings 1-9, 1=Excellent, 9=None

[redacted]

Production Year	Area Planted	Production *	Converted Lbs./ac.
1978	.10 ac.	34 lbs.	340 lbs.
1979	.10 ac.	14 lbs.	140 lbs.
1980	.10 ac.	10 lbs.	100 lbs.
1981	.10 ac.	29 lbs.	290 lbs.
1982	.10 ac.	35 lbs.	350 lbs.
1983	.10 ac.	20 lbs.	200 lbs.
1984	.10 ac.	17 lbs.	170 lbs.
1985	.10 ac.	24 lbs.	240 lbs.

* All harvest at Abilene State School was done by hand picking seed by resident clients.