

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION, ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES
WASHINGTON, DC

and the

TEXAS AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE STATION, TX

and the

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT
AUSTIN, TX

NOTICE OF RELEASE OF 'PLATEAU' AWNLESS BUSHSUNFLOWER

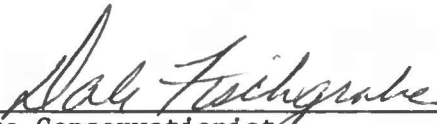
The United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service; the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station; and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department announce the naming and release of 'Plateau' awnless bushsunflower (Simsia calva [Engelm. and Gray] Gray). It was developed by the Soil Conservation Service, USDA, in Texas and released in cooperation with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas; and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Austin, Texas. (Plateau has been assigned the permanent number of PI-477971.)

Plateau awnless bushsunflower was collected from a native stand in southern Kimble County, Texas in 1964 by Soil Conservation Service personnel. It was evaluated with two other collections and proved to be the superior accession for range seeding mixtures and for wildlife food. It was increased from the original collection without re-selection.

There is a growing need for warm-season forbs in the Edwards Plateau and other areas throughout the state. Plateau is a warm-season large taprooted perennial forb that has been evaluated since 1965 for stand establishment, forage abundance and quality, and seed production. It has good drought tolerance and is readily eaten by all types of livestock and big game animals. It will respond positively under good grazing management, but it will not tolerate continuous heavy grazing and overuse. There are presently no released varieties of awnless bushsunflower. Plateau is best adapted to soil textures ranging from sandy loams to clay loams that are well-drained and in full sunlight. It does not seem to tolerate heavy clays, extremely wet or steady bottomlands, deep sands, or salinity. Plateau appears best adapted to the Edwards Plateau, the Rio Grande Plains (except for the Lower Rio Grande Plain) and all but the upper portions of the Grand Prairie and Central Rolling Red Prairies MLRA's in Texas.

Notice of Release of 'Plateau' Awnless Bushsunflower (Continued)

Four classes of seed will be recognized: Breeder, Foundation, Registered, and Certified. Breeder seed will be maintained by the Soil Conservation Service, Knox City Plant Materials Center, Knox City, Texas. Foundation seed will be produced at this location under the supervision of the Texas Department of Agriculture and distributed for commercial production to licensed certified seed growers.




State Conservationist
Soil Conservation Service, Texas

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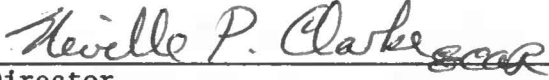
Date



Director
Ecological Sciences Division
Soil Conservation Service, Washington, DC

4/27/87


Date



Director
Texas Agricultural Experiment Station
College Station, Texas

3/10/87

Date



Head, Resource Management Section
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Austin, Texas

19 Mar 87

Date