USDA SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY AND

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

Notice of Release of 'Bankers' Willow

The United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, and University of Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station announce the release of 'Bankers' dwarf willow, Salix cotteti Korner. It was selected at the Soil Conservation Service Plant Materials Center, Quicksand, Kentucky.

'Bankers' was received by the Plant Materials Center in April 1967 from the Soil Conservation Service National Plant Materials Center, Beltsville, Maryland as BN-8360. It was designated at Quicksand as KY-663 and later assigned experimental number PI-42485. It was included in an evaluation block with seventy-four other willows in 1968. In 1972, it was selected for additional evaluations. At that time a vegetative increase block was established and has served as a source of all propagating material since that date.

'Bankers' is multi-stemmed and grows to a height of approximately six feet. Stems are small, rarely exceeding 1/2 inch in diameter, and are usually prostrate or semi-prostrate. Lateral spreading is due to layering of small stems which touch the ground. The growth characteristics of 'Bankers' make it useful for streambank stabilization on streams where the velocity does not exceed 6-8 feet per second. Its low growth habit and small stems, which bend with the moving water, increase its versatility for streambank use. It is readily propagated from cuttings that can be planted onto the streambank as rooted cuttings or as unrooted cuttings. Its growth rate is rapid.

Field tests show 'Bankers' to be adapted from Pennsylvania south to Alabama and in Oregon and Washington west of the Cascade Range.

Foundation quality plant materials will be maintained by the Soil Conservation Service Plant Materials Center, Quicksand, Kentucky. Rooted cuttings will be made available to commercial producers for establishing their production blocks in the Spring of 1983.

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Date

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