

## Introduction

This directory provides information on the production of native species seed in Iowa for 2008. The certification of native species plants is not based upon genetic standards. Instead, as the name indicates, it provides a method for seed growers to certify the seed's collection source for the assurance of the consumer. This assurance is important to consumers since many native plants and seeds on the market do not have a guarantee of their place of origin. When a consumer purchases seed labeled with a Source Identified class yellow label, they can be confident of its geographic origin and area of adaptation.

Both field and seed inspections are made on each of the species listed in this directory. The seed produced cannot be classified as certified Source Identified until it has passed field inspection, seed testing has been completed, and the seed is properly labeled. Prior to buying seed from a grower herein listed, the purchaser should inquire as to whether the seed production process has been completed. A certified Source Identified label on the container is assurance the seed meets specifications.

Further explanation of the Native Species program in Iowa is provided on pages four through six. The names, addresses, and phone numbers of the 2008 seed producers are provided on pages seven and eight. The remainder of the directory lists the species which were inspected in 2008. Prairie plant illustrations were provided by Mark Muller of Down to Earth Graphics.

**For more information on this program please contact :**

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