

## ***SUGGESTIONS for BROADCAST SEEDING of NATIVE WARM SEASON GRASSES (WSG) & WILDFLOWERS SEEDS***

- Disc the prairie planting areas to prepare a fine-textured seedbed.
- Next roll the seedbed with a culti-packer roller (w/ tines up) two or three times to firm the soil (firm enough that you barely leave a footprint when walked on).
- Then, broadcast the WSG/wildflower seeds over this area (inside the firebreaks). If you are using the Truax WSG electric operated mounted Seed Slinger or a Truax WSG hand held Seed Slinger, then a carrier is normally not required to broadcast the WSG/wildflower seeds. If you are using a conventional seed spreader, then a carrier is recommended. Some good carrier materials are: oats, pelletized lime (100-200 lbs./acre), potash, cracked corn, sawdust, cat litter, untreated floor dry or puffed wheat breakfast cereal. As you broadcast remember that the carrier will travel farther out than the light WSG seeds will. With any type of spreader, it may be necessary to overlap swaths or, broadcast in a criss-cross pattern – in other words, spread east to west and then go north to south.
- Note: Be certain all components are well-mixed together (WSG, wildflowers, carrier).
- Note: Include only part of your wildflower seed initially when you mix the WSG seed (about 1/3 of it); these firm seeds will tend to work the way to the bottom the light, fluffy WSG mixture. Then when you get about a third of the way planted, incorporate another 1/3 of the seed into the WSG. And repeat a third time with the balance of wildflower seed remaining when you get the second 1/3 planted.
- Following this, roll/culti-pack the planted area to insure good soil-seed contact.

Following the seeding you may want to apply Plateau herbicide at a four (4) ounces per acre rate; this can be performed anytime immediately after seeding, and up to three-four weeks post-seeding. Plateau is both a pre- and post-emergent herbicide; the period of its pre-emergent control is extended if application is delayed for 10-14 days post-seeding. This herbicide will not affect the WSG and wildflowers; clover and most legumes are not affected provided the plant has developed its true three-leafed appearance, but it will affect tender young seedlings.

**June - August** - Monitor the WSG planting for competing weeds and grasses. Some competition is acceptable, too much and it should be mowed but, not below 8" and NEVER low enough to mow new developing WSG. If you used Plateau, mowing probably won't be needed, or perhaps only once later-on after the Plateau's affect has worn-off (6-8 weeks post-application). If Plateau was not applied, then mowing the planting 2-3 times will be necessary to control competition – frequent high mowing will reduce the amount of residue that might cover and kill new WSG seedlings.

**NOTE:** The window for seeding WSG is from late April to mid-June; do NOT seed between July to the end of October. Dormant seeding can be performed from November to February.