

Greencover Canada Technical Assistance Program (Saskatchewan)

Utilization of New Grass Cultivars for Reclamation of Saline Sites

Final Report

Submitted: April 11, 2008

Submitted by: Saskatchewan Forage Council
Janice Bruynooghe - Executive Director
P.O. Box 1715
Outlook, SK S0L 2N0
Ph (306) 966-2148
Fax (306) 867-8120
jbruynooghe@saskforage.ca
www.saskforage.ca



Project Title: Utilization of New Grass Cultivars for Reclamation of Saline Sites

File Number: 1582-5-3-36

Project Description: Many reclamation plantings using perennial species in Saskatchewan are for revegetation of saline areas. There has been new grass cultivars developed in recent years that have been specifically selected for superior performance in saline areas. Information on origin, adaptation, relative performance and management of these cultivars is presently not widely available to producers. Developing a comprehensive information package will hasten the uptake of new methods of reclaiming saline soils. The project will review and summarize information regarding recently developed cultivars of salt tolerant grasses, such as NewHy wheatgrass hybrid and 'AC Saltlander' green wheatgrass. A colour factsheet will be developed, printed and distributed to government departments of agriculture, NGO's, seed companies and dealers, etc. The document will also be available electronically through the SFC (www.saskforage.ca) website. Project partners include Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Project Objectives and Activities:

Research and develop a factsheet providing information on new grass cultivars useful for salinity control.

Final Report:

The factsheet titled "Revegetation of Saline Soils Using Salt Tolerant Grasses" has been completed with 4,000 copies printed and available for distribution in November 2007 (see copies enclosed). As well, a digital copy is posted to the Saskatchewan Forage Council website at www.saskforage.ca. To date the Saskatchewan Forage Council has distributed more than 500 copies of the factsheet with steady demand continuing into the 2008 growing season and anticipated well into the future.

A note of recognition is given to members of the Project Technical Review Committee who provided their input and expertise including Barry Marquette – Saskatchewan Forage Council, Elaine Moats – Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. Harold Stepphun – Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and Michel Tremblay – Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture.

**Utilization of New Grass Cultivars for Reclamation of Saline Sites
Project Financial Summary**

Project Costs	Budget	Actual
Greencover TAC contributions	\$7,226.00	\$7,226.00
In-kind contributions	\$3,013.00	\$3,375.00
Total	\$10,239.00	\$10,601.00

Notes: Greencover TAC contributions include Statements of Claim to March 31, 2008.
In-kind total actual contributions comprised of 50% from Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture with the remaining 50% provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada-SPARC.