

November 13, 2015

ORLAND LITTLE BLUESTEM PLANTING ON THE WEST HALF OF THE AG FIELD BY LOWDEN ROAD

On Saturday, November 7, 2015 the crew of Jake Henry, Leah Kleiman, and Heather Baker planted about seven barrels of little bluestem combine mix into this field. See map below. We also seeded about 4 barrels of Canada rye, and about four barrels of combined prairie mix. I think we had less than 15 pounds per acre of the little blue combine mix. That little blue mix came from the Main Unit remnant south of the Yellow House 2055 along Lowden Road. It would have some indian grass and some forbs too.



Our goal is to produce a thick amount of little blue that we might combine for seed. Also, we wanted to put back to grass this habitat for the ornate box turtles to use.

This plantings was in corn/bean rotation for growing seasons of 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015. Before that it was a fallow pasture that Orlands had grazing cattle on. It was slowly being encroached with honey locust trees.

In early 2011 we had Nordman use a backhoe to rip out hundreds of honey locust (mainly). We used our Bobcat grapple to stack all these trees in piles on the south boundary of the field. We burned up as many of them as we could. A few lingered for a few years. There were lots of cattle bones in the field.

So the native seed was broadcast on November 7, 2015. First, we burned off the corn stubble on November 4, 2015 with BK, John H, Mike Carr, and Susan Kleiman. Bill harrowed in the seed with our Furst harrow on November 11, Veterans day, 2015.

We expect to have some weed pressure from BFT. We plan to boom spray broadleaf as needed.

End.