

Planting 27 Schafer Potholes - Spring 1999

This area was planted in Spring of 1999, but the creation of the potholes was done in the late summer and autumn of 1998.

We had determined from soil core samples that the area had upland soil deposited on the wetland soils due to previous farming uphill (on what is now the East Heinkel Planting).

We had heavy machinery scrape out three shallow "potholes" up to about 20 inches deep. We spread the resulting dirt in a wide fan out from these potholes.

We planted a rich mix of native forbs and grasses both from Nachusa Grasslands harvested Wet Mix and purchased seed and plants from Genesis Nursery (see list in paper file).

We had to mow the area where we spread the dirt in the Summer of 1999, twice we think, due to Canada thistle and other weeds.

The plants we saw coming up (summer of 1999) included: Flowering--turtle head, pickerel weed, arrowhead, water plantain, boneset, joe-pye-weed, Lobelia sil., Canada rye, big bluestem, button bush (planted as seedling), spirea (planted as seedling), bidens, goldenrods, Indian grass, smartweeds, wool grass, dark green bulrush, willows, gerardia, ratibida, sunflowers, ironweed, swamp milk weed.

Plugs of spirea and button bush were found, some were not found. A great deal of sedges and rice cut grass are coming up (summer of 1999).

Nearby is a new weed for Nachusa Grasslands (phragmites) which we have sprayed with roundup.