

Planting 32 – Southwest Hotchkiss Planting – June 1999

This area was sprayed with Roundup in the fall of 1998 and then burned.

It was then sprayed in the spring of 1999 with Round-up. Some strips were missed and spraying was done a second time.

The seed (forbs purchased from Genesis and little bluestem from Nachusa Grasslands) was hand broadcast and then harrowed with a tractor mounted harrow. It was mowed at least twice in the summer of 1999. Some of the more mesic to wet seed was planted in the lowest and most moist SW corner of the planting. The remainder was dry/mesic.

Plants we noticed growing on October 14, 1999 (some of which were in seed mix, some of which have come in on their own): *Coreopsis lanceolata*, *Rubbeckia hirta*, *Bouteloua curtipendula*, *Cirsium discolor*, *Andropogon scoparius* (little bluestem), *Petalostemum purpureum*, *Asclepias verticillata*, *Aster pilosus*, *Erigeron strigosus* as well as annual weeds and Canada Thistle.

Mowed several times for Parsnip near road in summer of 2000.

Mowed three times for Parsnip near road in summer of 2001.

Also planted in June 2001, a little bit of cord grass and rice cut grass in extreme sw corner by road due to the wetness noticed there in early spring.

July 3, 2009 Update by Bill Kleiman

This planting has a few plants of the invasive Asian bushclover, *Lespedeza daurica*, that likely walked in from planting 44 or 23. It may have come in with the Genesis seed order. The overlap of where it shows up is quite tight with the planting 23, and it is at HLP where we spread that seed mix. But we won't know where it came from in the end. Bushclovers are invasive and hard to control so we are trying to kill them. This June they were again abundant.

Quite a bit of sweetclover came up in the planting too, particularly on the east third of it. We spot sprayed these patches as we could but they were quite numerous and they got ahead of our efforts.

In June of 2008 we had Maplehurst spray 2-4-D on the entire Hotch 62 acres. This set back the clover but it was too late of an application for some weeds. It did not affect the asian bushclover, *Lespedeza daurica*.

Today, July 3, 2009, we sprayed 2 quarts per acre of Crossbow on the entire 62-acres. We hope to knock out the sweetclover and bushclover. About 8 days back I sprayed 1 ounce per gallon of Transline on about 12 acres along Lowden Road with bushclover as the target. The plants were not affected as of 8 days out. I either drove too fast for the tips or did not have enough herbicide.

We also had Genesis deliver to us seeds of *Echinacea purpurea*, which is not native to this region, when the order was for *E. pallida*. It was quite depressing to see those purple coneflowers coming up. We tried to spot spray them out but they were too numerous. They are in the Clear Creek planting too. This taught me the hard way that we need to harvest our own seed. Since this time we have a bigger summer crew who also works into fall and we have been harvesting our seed now for a decade.

I am not happy with the situation. We plan to manage it as a warm season and cool season grassland which will keep birds doing well.

- Bill Kleiman

Hotchkiss Tract 1999 Prairie Planting Survey

June 11, 2000

By Bill and Susan Kleiman

This is the 15-acres of so in the southwest corner across from Baumgardners barn-house.

O = occasionally seen on a casual walk through.

A = Seems rather abundant on a casual walk through. Occurrence may be patchy but there are plenty of individuals.

Side oats grama – O

Little bluestem – A

Lanced leaved coreopsis O

Black eyed susan – A

Coreopsis tripteris ? O. Not sure what this one was.

Candada milkvetch – O

Purple prairie clover

Rigid goldenrod

Whirled milkweed

Balsom ragwort

Weeds seen:

Yellow sweet clover. Occurs in maybe 20 large patches and then individuals here and there. In flower.

Alfalfa – A. This plant is proving hard to kill with herbicide, or it is coming from the seed bank.

Dandelion – A. Blows in and is numerous. Likely in the seed bank.

Smooth brome – A.

Weedy native goldenrods. – O

Canada thistle – A. Occurs in about 6 to 10 patches. In bud.

Bull thistle – O

Quack grass – One patch seen.

Mares tail – A Should diminish in the next year.

Field thistle – O

Sow thistle – one seen.

Timoth6y – one patch seen

Mullein – several seen.

Parsnip – A. Occurs in about 10 large patches. In early flower.

Birds seen or heard: Red winged blackbird, bobolink, and dick cissel.

Management actions to be taken:

Willard Simpson will mow this planting this week to about 6 inches high. This should knock back the sweetclover, parsnip, and thistle; and give light to the prairie plants. Overall, I am concerned that the weeds are abundant and could win the race for light and space. By next

summer we will know whether we should re-spray and re-plant. I think that we have learned how hard it is to knock back the weeds in an established CRP field. It takes lots of spraying over an entire year. I am glad Willard is spraying for broadleaves on the remaining CRP. This will greatly help keep them in control.

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