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Alaska Native Flower and Grass Seed Sale from the Plant Materials Center

The Alaska Plant Materials Center (PMC) is announcing its annual open request period for foundation seeds of grass, grain, and forbs. The sale runs from September 9 – 30, 2011. The list of the available seed lots, including quantities, varieties, and prices is posted on the Division of Agriculture and Plant Materials Center's web pages (<http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/> and <http://plants.alaska.gov>). **Please note that the sale date has been extended to September 30, 2011.** The seed is available at the PMC located at 5310 South Bodenbug Spur in the Butte, Palmer, Alaska.

The PMC produces "foundation and pre-certified" classes of seed which in turn are sold to commercial growers. The growers then produce "certified seed" which eventually is sold to farmers, landscape companies, revegetation contractors, or construction companies. The PMC is also offering more flowers than it has in the past due to the demand in the public sector for landscape plants native to Alaska. A ready market exists if you are willing to take the time now to plant for the future.

Demand can exceed the available supply of seeds. If this were to happen the Allocation Committee will determine the allocation. The committee consists of the Division of Agriculture Director and representatives from the University of Alaska, Agriculture and Forestry Experiment Station, the Alaska Seed Growers Association, and the PMC.

Fourteen different species of flowers are being offered this fall. All of these grow best if they are planted in the fall and allowed to remain in the outside soil for our winter's freezes and thaws. By planting these seeds now, you should have healthy plants next summer and vigorous, seed producing plants in 2013.

To order seed, either fill out the order form on-line at <http://plants.alaska.gov>, contact Peggy Hunt at 745-8721, peggy.hunt@alaska.gov, or, fax your request to 746-1568. Orders must be placed by September 30, 2011. After that date, seeds are allocated according to the available seed and the number of orders requesting the same lot. Payment and pickup of seeds is expected within two weeks of notification.

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