



CRP NOTE #95

January 4, 2000

The State Office has received a number of requests from field offices to formally summarize guidance provided via e-mail from previous CRP sign-up periods (15th – 18th) relative to acceptable shrub species for practice CP-4B/D. The following information summarizes: 1) reference materials for determining trees and shrubs native to Minnesota, their distribution, and adaptability, and 2) approved additions to the list of native species. Refer to the CRP Instructions for specific additional application requirements.

1. REFERENCE MATERIALS:

- **Forestry Technical Note #34 – “Trees and Large Shrubs: Species Native to Minnesota’s Ecoregions”**. While this MDNR publication was developed for implementing the state MnReleaf program, it provides a useful (but not exclusive) listing of trees and shrubs native to various landscapes in Minnesota.
- **NRCS Practice Standard 645 – Upland Wildlife Habitat Management**. This resource provides a listing of native trees and shrubs providing high quality wildlife habitat as well as landscape adaptability.
- **“Vascular Plants of Minnesota – A Checklist and Atlas”** by Owenby and Morely. An excellent checklist and distribution maps of all known occurrences of vascular plants (native as well as introduced) in Minnesota. Useful in determining whether a particular species is native, as well as geographic adaptability.
- **“Woody and Herbaceous Plants For Minnesota Landscapes and Roadsides”** by MnDOT. This CD is useful in determining a number of attributes including origin, adaptability, plant characteristics, maintenance and pictures.

2. ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE AND APPROVED SPECIES FOR CP-4B/D

- In addition to the species listed in Forestry Technical Note #34, the following species are considered native and/or acceptable for CP-4B/D.
 - a) Silverberry (*Elaeagnus commutate*), native to the western portions of MSA zones 4,5,6
 - b) Western Sandcherry (*Prunus pumila*) (*Prunus Besseyi*) native statewide.
 - c) Crabapple (*Malus spp*) although generally not native, crabapple are not considered invasive and are commonly a component of the MDNR Wildlife Packets.
- The following species are listed in Forestry Technical Note #34 as deciduous trees, however other references often consider them as tall shrubs. Therefore they will be acceptable as shrubs for CRP: Chokecherry, pin cherry, American plum, Mountain Ash and Crabapple.
- The following shrubs are generally tolerant to calcareous high pH soils: Western sandcherry, False Indigo, Smooth Sumac, Juneberry (serviceberry), American hazel, Red Osier Dogwood and American Cranberry.
- Relative to the tallgrass prairie, White Spruce, Blackhills Spruce and Eastern redcedar are considered native.

Direct questions to Mark Oja, State Biologist or Paul Flynn, State Forester.

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