

**Native Plant Seeds Available for 2009 Rain Gardens  
Through the MOA Rain Garden Program!**  
Seeds and information provided by the Alaska Plant Materials Center



Germination of Knik Germplasm is highest when the seeds are planted right after harvest. Freeze seeds if they cannot be planted immediately. Drill seed 1/4 to 1/2 inch deep as soon as possible. Seed germination is best when subjected to the freeze/thaw cycle of winter (Skinner, 2005).

**Knik Germplasm**

**Wild Iris**

*Iris setosa*



Another common name for this plant is skunkleaf. If the leaves are crushed a skunky smell emerges. The showy blue flowers with yellow in the middle stand out in most landscapes. In the wild it will reseed itself. In a raised bed, if fertilizer is added, these plants will bloom all summer long. As a perennial, it has deep, fibrous tap roots.

**Butte Germplasm**

**Jacob's Ladder**

*Polemonium pulcherrimum*



Beach lovage can be direct-seeded in either late fall or spring for a mature plant to form by the end of the summer. Casco Cove Germplasm beach lovage seed should be planted 1/4 inch deep. The seeds germinate well in either dark or light as long as they are kept moist (Plants for a Future, 2005).

**Casco Cove Germplasm**

**Beach Lovage**

*Ligusticum scoticum*



'Caiggluk' is an easy plant to grow. Its basic requirements are simple: it grows well with grasses and weeds, can adapt to many different types of sites, and will tolerate pH from 2 to 9 (Aiken, et al., 1999).

In the wild, or on revegetation sites, it grows from 56 to 24 inches high. It has been found on many different soil types. It prefers sun. T common

name, stinkweed, refers to its smell when the leaves are crushed. The smell is pleasant, to some, and powerful enough to cover the smell of fish.

## **'Caiggluk' Tilesius'**

**Wormwood  
(Stinkweed)**  
*Artemisia tilesii*



Polargrass is a perennial. It grows about 1.5 feet tall and has purple spikelets when mature. It has wide, lax leaves and stout rhizomes (Mitchell, 1987). It spreads by short, thick rhizomes forming dense clumps. Polargrass has small seeds and poor seedling development. Once established, it is winter hardy.

## **'Kenai' Polargrass**

*Arctagrostis  
latifolia*



Kentucky bluegrass forms sod, is a perennial, and is a cool-season grass. Before mowing, Kentucky bluegrass can reach about 2 feet high. Its open, light brown flower/seed head produces much seed.

## **'Nugget'**

**Kentucky  
Bluegrass**  
*Poa pratensis*



Bering hairgrass is a cool season bunch grass. It will grow in most any soil, although in the wild it is usually found in wet or boggy situations.

*Deschampsia beringensis* adapts to a wide range of conditions. It is tolerant of moist and salty conditions.

‘Norcoast’ is a medium to tall grass with narrow leaves. The composition of its leaves and flowering spike make for a hearty, beautiful part of a wet, coastal, or tundra reclamation. ‘Norcoast’ is also useful for wildlife. Many animals use it for food and shelter.

## ‘Norcoast’

### **Bering Hairgrass**

*Deschampsia beringensis*



*Deschampsia caespitosa* is a cool season bunch grass. It will grow in most any soil. In the wild it is found in moist or boggy areas. As the seed matures it turns purple, making the grass look light and dark. When compared with other hairgrasses, *D. caespitosa* has shorter, narrower leaves that are a dark green. Its inflorescence tops out about the same height as others, making an easier harvest (Mitchell, 1986). A truly Arctic species, this hairgrass is well suited for many of Alaska’s harshest environments.

## ‘Nortran’

### **Tufted Hairgrass**

*Deschampsia caespitosa*