

Seeds of Success (SOS) is the national native seed collection program, led by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in partnership with numerous federal agencies and non-federal organizations. As the first step of the Native Plant Materials Development Program (NPMDP), SOS's mission is to collect wildland native seed for research, development, germplasm conservation, and ecosystem restoration. The NPMDP's mission is to increase the quality and quantity of native plant materials available for restoring and supporting resilient ecosystems.

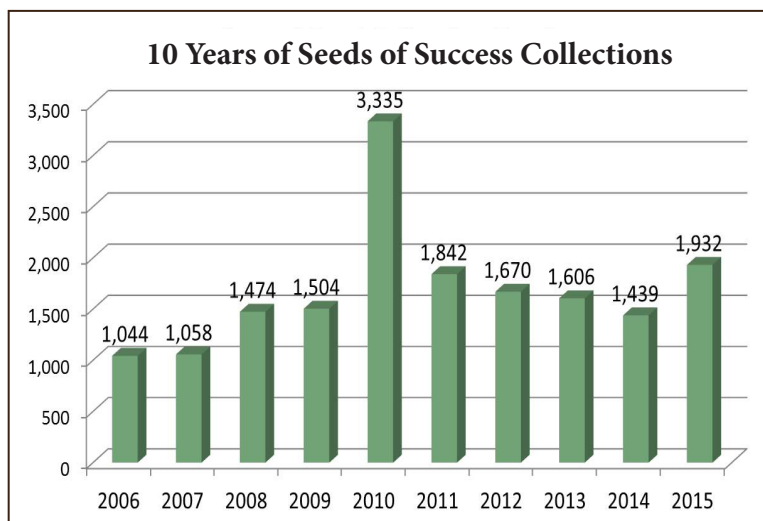
SOS was established in 2001 by the BLM in partnership with the Millennium Seed Bank Project (MSB). The initial partnership between BLM and MSB quickly grew to include many additional partners, such as botanic gardens, arboreta, zoos, and municipalities. These SOS teams share a common protocol to coordinate seed collecting and species targeting efforts.

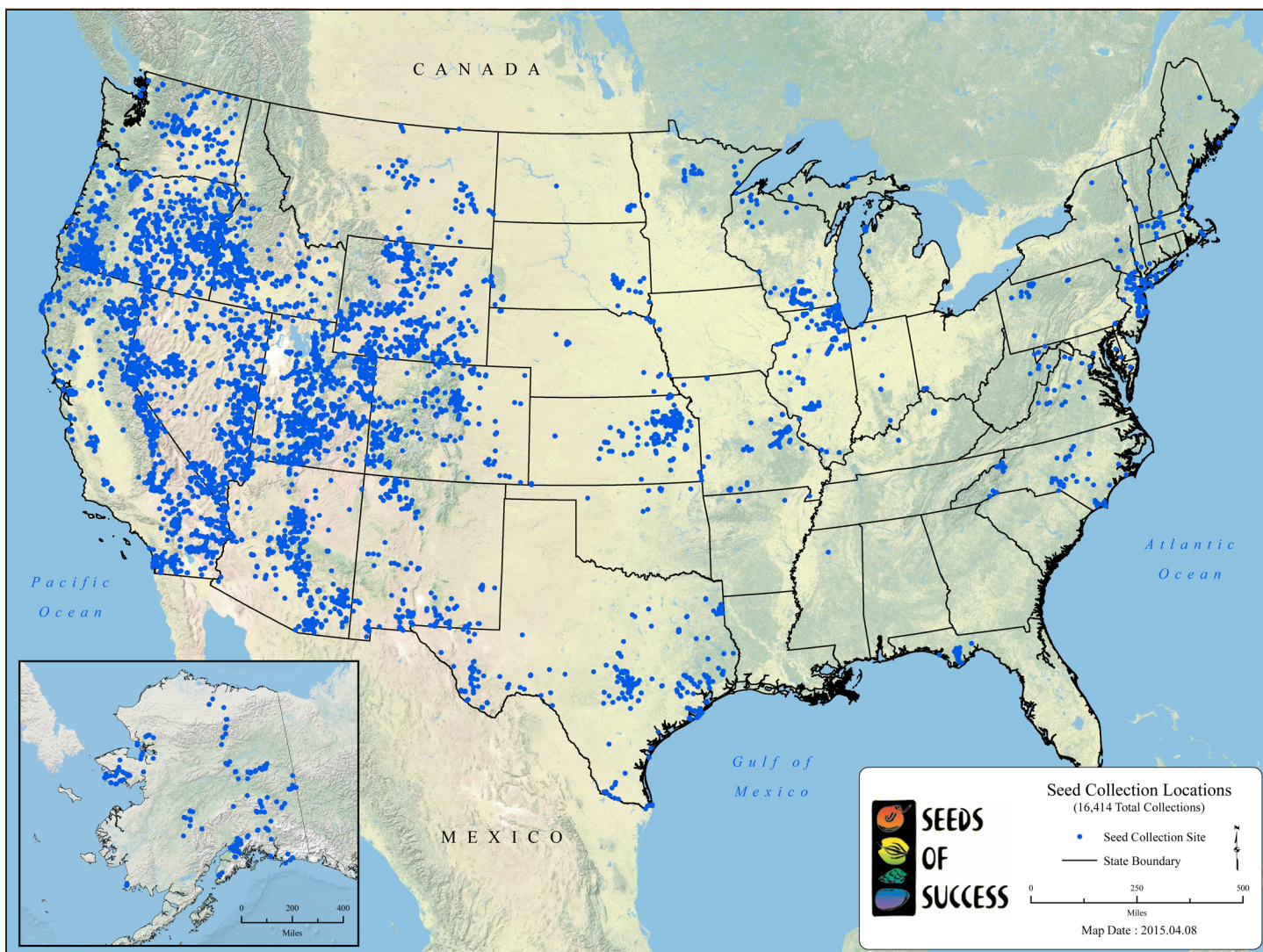
To date, SOS has more than 18,000 native seed collections in its National Collection. This material is used for native plant materials development projects such as germination trials, common garden studies, and protocol establishment. Portions of each collection are also held in long-term storage facilities for conservation. 2015 marked notable expansion for SOS in the eastern U.S. with a \$3.5 million award from the Sandy Supplemental Mitigation Fund for seed collection in coastal habitats from Virginia to Maine.

The Bureau of Land Management signed a MOU with six non-federal partners including the Chicago Botanic Garden, New York City Department of Parks Greenbelt Native Plant Center, Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center, North Carolina Botanical Garden, New England Wildflower Society, and the Zoological Society of San Diego. Since becoming involved in SOS, these partners have contributed nonfederal matching funds totaling over \$5 million.

Seed collections have been made on Bureau of Land Management Public Lands, USDA Forest Service National Forests, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuges, Department of Defense areas, and The Nature Conservancy's lands as well as on state, county and municipal lands.

Seeds of Success Collections in Brief	
Total Seed Collections	18,074
Unique Taxa Collected	5,208
Genera Collected	1,122
Collecting Teams	115
Collectors Trained	810
Ecoregions Represented	91
States Represented	43





Seeds of Success priorities include:

- **Sage-Grouse Habitat.** Seeds of Success is working to capture genetic variation from populations of native plants including sagebrush. SOS has made over 2,500 native seed collections within Greater Sage-Grouse habitat areas.
- **Tallgrass Prairie.** The tallgrass prairie is one of the earth's most endangered habitats, having lost 96% of its land to agricultural and other human activities. To preserve the species found in the region, the Chicago Botanic Garden is focused on increasing collections from species that are integral to the tallgrass prairie biome in the midwest.
- **Mid-Atlantic Region.** Launched in 2012 by New York City Dept. of Parks & Recreation's Greenbelt Native Plant Center, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Seed Bank is a cooperative conservation effort participating in Seeds of Success.



For more information on Seeds of Success or the Native Plant Materials Development Program, contact:

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