

This project has been conducted as part of a cooperative effort between the University of Idaho-College of Agriculture, Idaho nursery growers, the Idaho Department of Agriculture, and the Stillinger Foundation. Major collection areas were: the Interior (Fairbanks, Delta, Denali Park, etc.), the Yukon River, above the Arctic Circle (Brooks Range, Prudhoe Bay, etc.), the Kenai Peninsula, Cook Inlet, and the Copper River Delta. Habitat types included alpine and arctic tundra, glacial and river outwash, spruce bogs, and boreal forest. Approximately 150 plants were collected and pressed for inclusion in the Alaska section of the University of Idaho Herbarium, and approximately 30 different species of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous perennials were collected for potential use as nursery or fruit crops. The following species were presented in the poster presentation, but more species are currently being examined: *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* var. *uva-ursi*, *Empetrum nigrum*, *Iris setosa* ssp. *interior*, *Loiseleuria procumbens*, *Rhododendron lapponicum*, *Rubus arcticus* ssp. *acaulis*, *Salix alexensis*, *Vaccinium uliginosum* ssp. *alpinum*, *Vaccinium vitis-idaea*, and *Viburnum edule*. There is much potential for expanding product inventory by introducing what are native species in some areas (Alaska) as exotics in other areas (Idaho) with similar environmental and climatic conditions. This work is only the preliminary stage of a long process to develop some of the more desirable native Alaskan species as new products for the commercial nursery industry. In addition to initial propagation procedures, various cultural conditions including watering, fertilizing, temperature, lighting, and different propagation media will all need to be tested to optimize production of each species. The final stage of development will be examining how well the plant grows on a natural landscape in a non-native environment. These stages will take time, but the process has begun, and hopefully can continue as public and private institutions seek to improve the future of the nursery industry.

Correction: *Vaccinium uliginosum* ssp. *alpinum* was confused with another species that is not included in this poster. It was collected but not propagated. The error was not recognized until the poster was near completion.

Oregon Association of Nurserymen's Plastic Recycling Program

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A program to recycle broken plastic pots, flats, and plug trays was initiated by the Oregon Association of Nurserymen in February 1995. Plastics accepted must be made of polyethylene (recycling symbol 2), polypropylene (recycling symbol 5), or polystyrene (recycling symbol 6). To participate, the plastics must be free of soil, separated by resin type, and delivered to 1 of 3 cooperating plastic consolidators in the Willamette Valley. The consolidators bale and ship the material to reprocessors for manufacturing into resin pellets or plastic lumber.