

Ash Seed Collection Form

PLANT INFORMATION

Check species enclosed

Black Ash

Green Ash

White Ash

Blue Ash

COLLECTION INFORMATION

Date Collected _____

Collector's Name _____

Collector's Affiliation _____

Is this sample from Tribal Lands?

NO YES

If yes, what tribe? _____

COLLECTION SITE INFORMATION

State _____

County _____

Township _____

Range _____

MLRA _____

(Refer to enclosed map or consult local NRCS Field Office)

Any additional information about the sample identification.

- *Please complete the above form as completely as possible.*
- *Enclose the completed form with the seed shipment.*
- *Be sure to label each collection as it is made, so collections do not get mixed up. Send seed to the Rose Lake Plant Materials Center within 24 hours after collection.*

Seed Collection: Check each collection for filled seed and then attempt to get at least 500 seeds for each population. Mature seed is typically brown to tan in color and separates easily from the tree.

Put seeds in a cloth or paper bag and store under cool, dry conditions until shipment to the Rose Lake Plant Materials Center. **DO NOT** store seeds in a plastic bag.

Please send an email to the Plant Materials Center (john.leif@mi.usda.gov) when shipment is sent.

Ash Seed Collection Instructions

The following recommendations are intended to aid in the successful collection of ash seeds. They will help in the identification, harvest, handling, and shipment of ash seeds.

1. **Tree Identification** – Tree identification is critical to successful seed collection. Ash trees can be identified by leaf, bark, stem, bud, and general structure characteristics. Refer to the enclosed resources to determine the identification of the four Ash species. **IT IS NECESSARY TO IDENTIFY ASH TREES TO THE SPECIES.**
2. **Mark Trees for Seed Collection** – Mark selected Ash trees with a weather resistant paint, plastic ribbon, or other method that will withstand the effects of weather and wildlife. A map of the area marked with the location of specific trees is also recommended. GPS technology may also be helpful in determining the location of specific trees.
3. **Determine Seed Production on Marked Trees.** Ash trees produce either pollen or seed, but not usually on the same tree. Ash trees may not produce seed in a given year, so monitoring trees for two to eight years may be necessary to identify and collect seed from a given tree. Seed production begins in mid-summer and seeds come to maturity in late-summer to early-autumn.
4. **Seed Harvest** - Harvest seed from marked trees when seed is mature. Mature seed will be tan to brown in color and will easily separate from the tree. Try to collect a minimum of 500 seeds from a population. Seeds from multiple trees can be combined to create the collection. Harvesting seed directly from a marked tree (instead of the ground) is desired. This minimizes the potential for disease or mold contamination and insures that the harvested seed is identified by species.
5. **Complete an ASH SEED COLLECTION FORM.** Include the completed form with the seed shipment to the Rose Lake Plant Materials Center. Complete a form for each species or population collected.
6. **Seed Storage and Shipment** – Place harvested seeds into a cloth or paper bag and label the bag to accurately identify the sample. **DO NOT** store seeds in a plastic bag. **KEEP SEED OF EACH ASH SPECIES IN A SEPARATE CONTAINER.** Store seed under cool, dry conditions until shipment. Ship seeds to the Rose Lake Plant Materials Center within 24 hours of harvest if possible. Next-day delivery is preferred. Include ASH SEED COLLECTION FORM with the seed shipment.

Seeds are to be shipped to: **USDA-NRCS Rose Lake Plant Materials Center**
7472 Stoll Road
East Lansing, MI 48823