



Potential Use of New Plant Releases for Fire Breaks



Rangeland Management and
Erosion Prevention Workshop
Thursday, September 5, 2019
Heritage Ranch

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Forage Kochia *Bassia prostrata* (L.) A.J. Scott,
prostrate summer cypress, perennial summer cypress

Very good forage for livestock and wildlife
Grows in 6-16 inch rainfall zones
Very resistant to fire

Immigrant was released in the United States in
1984 (Stevens et al. 1984). Immigrant is native
to the arid and semiarid regions of Central
Eurasia. A newer release, Snowstorm, has
better production.

It does well in the Great Basin, but will it grow
along the California Coast?



Of interest is its ability to resist fire. Could be used a fuel breaks along ridges, roads, and powerlines. Another possible tool to help in preventing large catastrophic fires.



Field Day, Blue Creek Research Farm, Northern UT







Forage kochia firebreak
Photo by Mike Pellant.

Plot 2, Treatment C2 = March 14, 2019 seeding of Mix, 13 lb/ac
Mix = Smooth Brome, Siberian wheatgrass, Snowstorm kochia



A few larger kochia seedlings were seen. No perennial grasses seen.

Plot 3, Treatment B1= February 6, 2019 seeding, Immigrant 4 lb/ac



There were many small kochia plants seen.

Plot 3. Treatment B2= March 14, 2019 seeding, Immigrant 4 lb/ac



There were few larger kochia plants seen.

Plot 4, Treatment B1= February 6, 2019 seeding, Immigrant 4 lb/ac



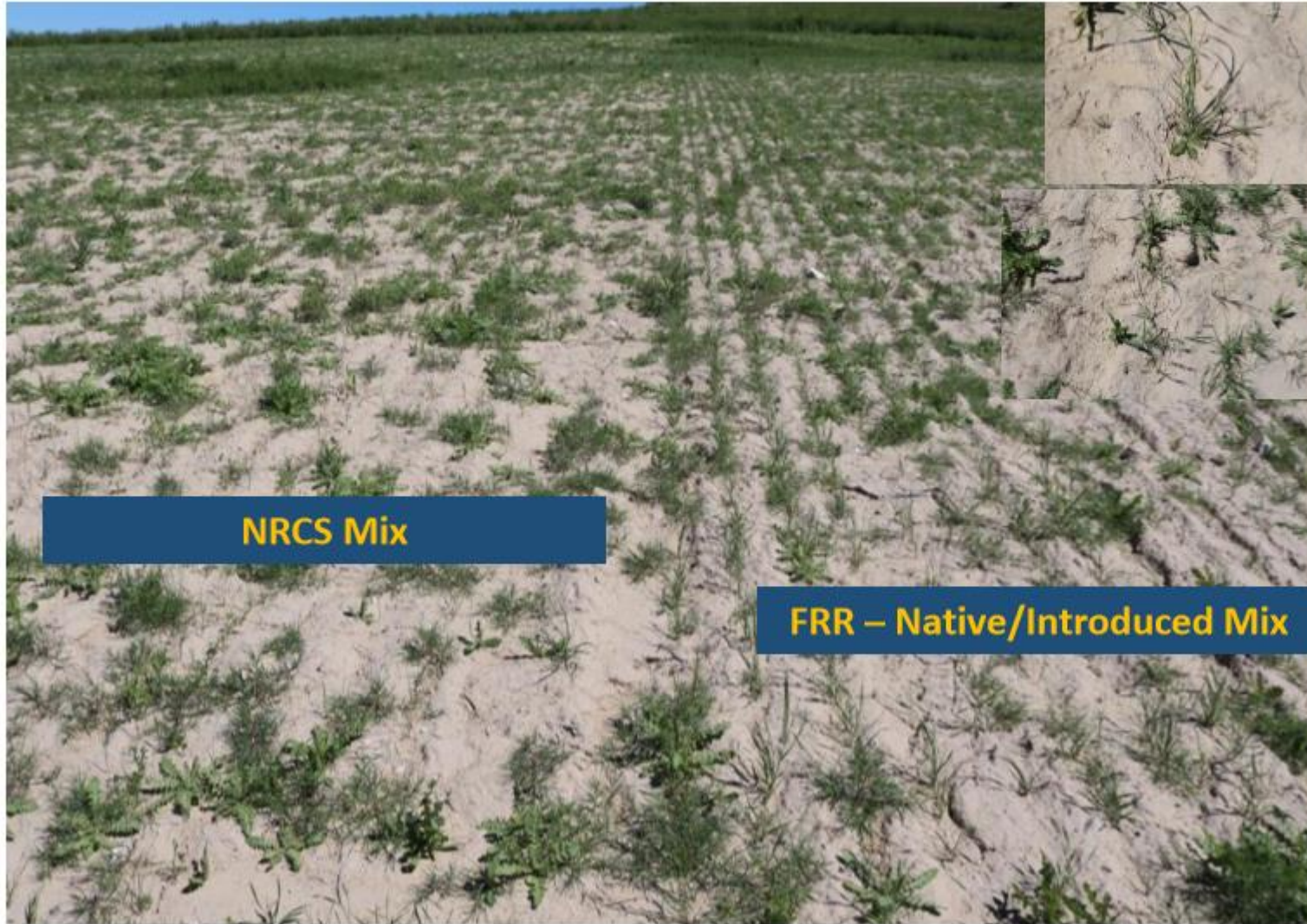
There were many small kochia plants seen.

Plot 5. Treatment A1= February 6, 2019 seeding, Snowstorm 4 lb/ac



There were only a few small kochia plants seen.

Ririe Idaho – CRP Planting (Fall 2017)



NRCS Mix

FRR – Native/Introduced Mix

NRCS – Recommended seed mix

- Secar (Snake River wheatgrass) – 13% of mix
 - Bannock (thickspike wheatgrass) – 5%
 - Trailhead (basin wildrye) – 10%
 - Eski (Sainfoin) – 55%
 - Ladak (alfalfa) – 10%
 - Appar (flax) – 5%
 - Snake River Plains (Fourwing saltbrush) – 2%
- 12.4 lbs per acre seeding rate**

FRR – native/introduced mix

- Rush (intermediate wheatgrass) -17%
 - Arsenal (meadow brome) – 17%
 - Discovery (Snake River wheatgrass) – 8%
 - Vavilov II (Siberian wheatgrass) – 17%
 - Eski (Sainfoin) – 17%
 - Delar (small burnet) – 8%
 - Appar (Lewis flax) – 4%
 - Ladak (alfalfa) – 4%
- 12.0 lbs per acre seeding rate**

Legumes in the FRR native/introduced mix

