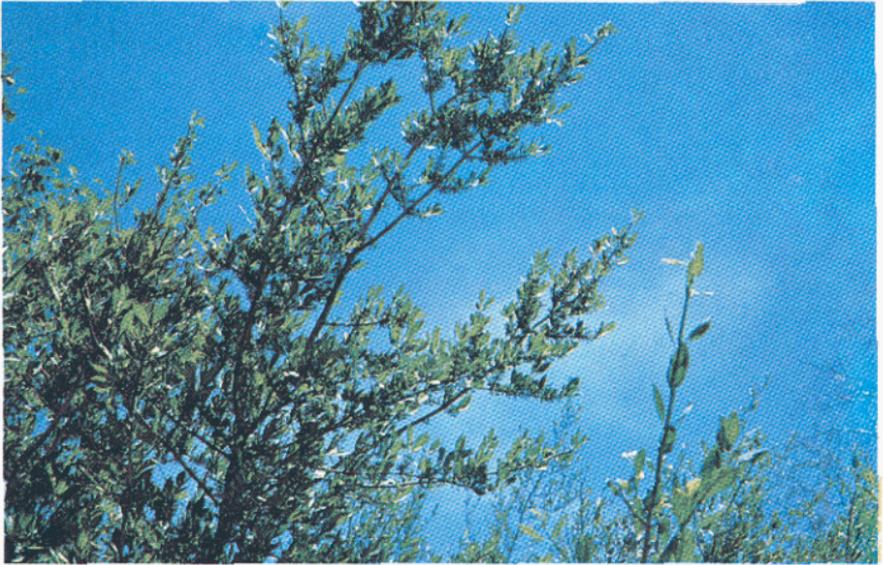


AUGUST 1978

'JEMEZ' NEW MEXICO FORESTIERA



**EXCELLENT LANDSCAPE AND
CONSERVATION PLANT**

PROVIDES GOOD FOOD AND COVER FOR WILDLIFE

POTENTIAL FOR URBAN PLANTINGS

'JEMEZ' NEW MEXICO FORESTIERA

'Jemez' New Mexico Forestiera (*Forestiera neomexicana* A. Gray) is a deciduous woody shrub useful in soil stabilization and beautification plantings, in windbreaks, in mine reclamation plantings, and along water courses. It is also useful in landscape plantings and is a valuable wildlife plant.

This variety was released in 1978 by the Agricultural Experiment Stations of New Mexico State University and Colorado State University, the New Mexico State Highway Department, and USDA, Soil Conservation Service.

ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION

This variety originated from seed collected in the vicinity of Jemez Springs, New Mexico in 1939. This seed was assigned the accession number A-12044 and was used to produce plants at the SCS Albuquerque Nursery. Seed was planted at the Los Lunas PMC in 1963.

New Mexico Forestiera is a fast-growing, much branched deciduous shrub attaining heights of 12 feet or more under favorable conditions. Suckering from the base is common.

The inner branches tend to interlace when plants are closely spaced in hedges. The plants have a tendency to form a tap root system.

The simple opposite leaves are narrow and grayish-green in color. The bark is smooth and light gray.

The small, inconspicuous flowers are crowded in dense, sessile clusters in the axils of the previous year's leaves. Plants bloom from March to April before new leaves appear.

The oblong fruit is a drupe that turns bluish-black in color between June and September when the fruit ripens. It is very bitter but is relished by songbirds.

AREA OF ADAPTATION

Although this native species is often found growing along stream or water courses, it has considerable drought tolerance. It grows at elevations of 3,000 to 7,000 feet on hillsides, mesas, and in moist valleys.

'Jemez' is adapted to much of Colorado and New Mexico however, it needs supplemental water on drier sites.

ESTABLISHMENT

'Jemez' New Mexico Forestiera will be available commercially in 1979 as bare-root stock or in containers. No special planting techniques are necessary for this variety other than normal procedures for any transplanted material.

COMMERCIAL PROPAGATION

The variety is propagated by seed. The usual procedure is to plant the seed in moist soil sometime during the fall, or at least prior to February. This provides natural stratification. A good stand of seedlings can be expected in May.

Successful stands can also be obtained by stratifying the seed in moist sand in a cooler at about 38° F. for at least 30 days. The seed is then removed from the cooler and planted in moist soil during May.

Size of seedlings in nursery beds can be partially controlled by row spacing on the amount of seed planted. The largest plants are more quickly obtained by seeding sparsely in rows spaced at least two feet apart. Some seedlings produced in this fashion are large enough to use for bare-root stock after one growing season.

Breeder seed will be maintained by the Los Lunas Plant Materials Center. Limited numbers of live plants are available to commercial growers for establishing seed source nurseries. Seed for initial commercial

nursery production can be obtained from the Los Lunas PMC through Resource Conservation Districts and state crop improvement or seed growers associations. Additional information on commercial propagation of this variety is available from the Los Lunas PMC, 1036 Miller Street **SW**, Los Lunas, New Mexico **87031**.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This publication was prepared and published by the New Mexico State Highway Department and the New Mexico Crop Improvement Association. Additional information is available on the use of 'Jemez' New Mexico Forestiera from any conservation district or **Soil** Conservation Service office serving your area. Assistance is available without regard to race, creed, color, sex or national origin. ‡