

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION, ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

and the

TEXAS AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION  
TEXAS X&M UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

and the

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION  
ABILENE STATE SCHOOL  
ABILENE, TEXAS

NOTICE OF GERM PLASM RELEASE OF 'YELLOW PUFF' LITTLELEAF LEADTREE

The United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service; the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station; and the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, Abilene State School, announce the germ plasm release of 'Yellow Puff' littleleaf leadtree (*Leucaena retusa* Benth.).

'Yellow Puff' was developed at the Soil Conservation Service Plant Materials Center, Knox City, Texas, and the Abilene State School, Abilene, Texas. The permanent number assigned to 'Yellow Puff' littleleaf leadtree is PI-321631.

'Yellow Puff' is a composite of five collections, representative of a gene base typical of the western Edwards Plateau area. 'Yellow Puff' is a leguminous shrub, or small tree, indigenous to central and west Texas on dry, well-drained, rocky soils. It is a high quality shrub readily browsed by wildlife and livestock.

Field plantings in the Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau areas of Texas have shown the plant well suited along highways for ornamental purposes because of its golden globose flowers. It is also well suited for wildlife or range plantings. Since the species is very palatable and seed will be available in limited quantity, the use of 'Yellow Puff' for these purposes will also be limited. The area of adaptation will include the Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau Major Land Resource Areas, on well-drained soils.

Limited seed of 'Yellow puff' littleleaf leadtree will be maintained and distributed by the Abilene State School, Abilene Texas, and the Soil Conservation Service, Knox City Plant Materials Center, Knox City, Texas.

Notice of Germ Plasm Release of 'Yellow Puff' Littleleaf Leadtree (Cont.)

Seed will be made available to commercial nurserymen who are encouraged to establish their seed production blocks, and to state and federal agencies interested in production and use for breeding purposes. Seed in excess of these needs will be made available to the general public.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State Conservationist  
Soil Conservation Service, Texas

AUG 18 1981

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Ecological  
Technology Development and Application  
Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

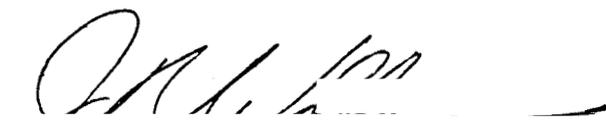
Oct. 2, 1981

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director  
Texas Agricultural Experiment Station  
College Station, Texas

SEP 08 1981

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Manager  
Abilene State-School  
Abilene, Texas

SEP 21 1981

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Basis for Germ Plasm Release of

'Yellow Puff' Littleleaf Leadtree, *Leucaena retusa* Benth.

This composite of five collections was established at the SCS Plant Materials Center, Knox City, Texas, from seed planted in 1965. The seed was collected by Soil Conservation Service personnel in 1963 and 1964 from native trees. The origins of the collections are Junction, Texas (3 different trees), Sonora (1 collection), and Leakey (1 collection). This composite is representative of a gene base typical of the western Edwards Plateau area.

All of the seed collected to date have been hand picked. Attempts to mechanically harvest seed have not been successful, so it is anticipated that large quantities of seed cannot be made available to the public at an economical cost. This will greatly limit the widespread use of the plant for inclusion in range seeding mixtures or other areas where the plant would be used if seed were available in quantity.

Refer to the release notice for uses, other supportive information, and area of adaptation.

This is the first release of the species of *Leucaena retusa*.