

## **Planting a Prairie: Choose Your Own Adventure**

### **I. Site Evaluation**

- A. soil type
- B. soil moisture level
- C. Current vegetation cover
- D. Shape, size and surroundings

### **II. Site Preparation**

- A. Tilling
- B. Cultivate with soybean
- C. Herbicide
- D. Sod cutting
- E. "Henderson method"
- F. Burn and interseed

### **III. Seeding**

- A. Fall broadcast seeding
- B. Spring broadcast seeding
- C. Spring drill seeding
- D. Mycorrhizal Inoculation?

### **IV. First Year Maintenance**

- A. mow!

- B. Spot treat biennial and perennial weeds as needed

## **V. Early Weed Management**

- A. mow?
- B. pull, mow, spray biennial weeds: Eliminate seed production!
- C. Contain and kill perennial weeds while they are small

## **VI. Introducing Prescribed Fire (Year 2-4)**

- A. Annually for 2-4 years
- B. Burn every 1-4 years once better established

## **VII. Interseeding and Interplanting**

- A. Continually add to the diversity of appropriate native plants
- B. Spread freshly collected seed or in fall after burn
- C. Plant in more open areas, in clusters

## **VIII. Long-Term Maintenance**

- A. Prevent exotic cool-season grasses from creeping in
- B. Monitor and remove brush
- C. Monitor and control warm-season grasses as needed
- D. Canada / tall goldenrod and other aggressive perennials