NEW ENGLAND TRANSPORTATION CONSORTIUM QUARTERLY PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

- A. PROJECT NUMBER AND TITLE: NETC 21-3: Seed Production for NE Roadsides
- B. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR(s) & UNIVERSITY(s): J. Kuzovkina, University of Connecticut
- C. WEB SITE ADDRESS (If one exists): NA
- D. START DATE (Per NETC Agreement): May 18, 2022
- E. END DATE (Per NETC Agreement): June 30, 2024

F. ANTICIPATED COMPLETION DATE: June 30, 2024

If different from the END DATE in paragraph E., the reason must be given. It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator to ensure that the project, including review of the draft report by the Project Technical Committee and the printing of the Final Report, is completed prior to the Agreement End Date. Costs incurred after the Agreement End Date cannot be reimbursed. **Requests for extensions of the Agreement End Date must contain the reasons for the request and be submitted so as to arrive in the Coordinator's office at least 90 days prior to the Agreement End Date.**

- G. PROJECT OBJECTIVES: The objective of this project is to increase native plantings and pollinator habitats with seed from local ecotypes along roadsides throughout New England. The proposed work is designed: 1) to promote ecotypic seed production for effective establishment of native plants on roadsides in New England and 2) to expand management practices that result in the proliferation of existing native plant communities along the roadsides in New England.
- H. REPORT PERIOD: May 18, 2022 June 30, 2022
- ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS PERIOD: Developed questionnaire and conducted the focus group interviews to identify the past use and future demand for native plant seed with the following DOTs: Vermont (June 16), New Hampshire (June 23), Massachusetts (June 23). Also, conducted the focus group interview to identify the past use and future demand with the CT DEEP (June 16).

Conducted the literature search to assist with the development of Best Management Practices (BMP). Started compilation of the currently available ecotypic seed supplies in each seed zone in New England.

- J. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED (If any): We invited Maine DOT to participate in the focus group interviews but have not heard back yet. Due to the delay with the contract, we were not able to establish the roadside demonstration plots (Task 3); however, we selected a site which will be used for observations of its native vegetation and effect of the mowing practices.
- **K. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES:** List any reports, papers, presentations published/presented during the report period or anticipated for the next quarter. NA
- L. STATUS BY TASK: Show Work Task Number, description and % complete for each task including those completed, those underway, and those not started.

Task1: Current knowledge and practices 5%

Task 2: Investigate local seed production opportunities 5%

- Task 3: Establish and monitor roadside demonstration plots for training and research purposes 3%
- Task 4: Draft Final Report and Technology Transfer Strategy and Toolbox 3%

Task 5: Deliverables: Final Report 0%

M. PERCENT COMPLETION OF TOTAL PROJECT: _____5___%

N. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT QUARTER: continue the focus group interviews with the Rhode Island and Connecticut DOTs.; as well as MA, RI and VT DEEP (already arranged) Continue the development of Best Management Practices (BMP) and compilation of the currently available ecotypic seed supplies in each seed zone in New England.

O. FINANCIAL STATUS:

As of: *Month, Day, Year* Total Project Budget: \$ 200,000 Total Expenditures: \$ 10,000

Note: This report should not require more than 2-3 pages & should be e-mailed to the NETC Coordinator so as to arrive no later than ten (10) working days after the end of each calendar quarter.