Plant Name: Leadplant
Scientific name: *Amorpha canescens* Pursh

Short Description:
Leadplant is a small native warm-season perennial legume with lead-gray foliage and accenting purple flowers.

Description:
Leadplant is a small native warm-season perennial leguminous shrub adapted to the central one-half of the United States extending from Mexico into Canada. Leadplant is found growing in most all types of soils with an average annual rainfall of 20 to 45 inches. The presence of leadplant on the prairie is an indication the prairie is in excellent health. Leadplant is very high protein and subsequently it is readily grazed by all classes of livestock and wildlife. Leadplant is relatively shade tolerant but when placed in shade it will grow towards the sunlight. Leadplant's comparatively slow establishment and low seed production prevent it from being a dominant species on the prairie. It is a favorite among prairie enthusiast for its lead-gray appearance and accenting purple flowers.

Use:
Landscape: attractive as an accent plant, in mass plantings as well as in species mixes
Wildlife: palatable and nutritious native legume
Livestock: highly palatable, tends to be overgrazed

Taxonomic Classification:
Leadplant

Kingdom	Plantae
Subkingdom	Tracheobionta
Superdivision	Spermatophyta
Division	Magnoliophyta
Class	Magnoliopsida
Subclass	Asteridae
Order	Asterales
Family	Asteraceae
Genus	*Amorpha*
Species	*canescans* Pursh

Plant Characteristics:

Height:	24 to 36 inches
Growth habit:	shrub with single stems and few branches
Bloom color:	light to dark purple
Bloom period:	late spring and summer
Sun requirement:	full sun
Leaf foliage color:	green with fine hairs giving it a grayish lead color
Seeds per pound:	195,000 hulled
Minimum soil temperature for germination:	60 degrees F
Soil pH range:	5.5 to 8.0
Planting Rate:	4 oz/1000 or 10 lbs/acre
Planting Depth:	¼ to ½ inch
Planting season:	spring; fall