

Hi Vivian, please see below from the "Torreya Guardians" .
I trust that his finds you well.
For our plants!!...

Stan Simpkins
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"In this world, you must be oh so smart or oh so pleasant. Well, for years I was smart. I recommend pleasant. And you may quote me". -Elwood P. Dowd

----- Forwarded by Stan Simpkins/R4/FWS/DOI on 03/05/2008 11:29 AM -----

Connie Barlow

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t.com>**

03/05/2008 10:24 AM

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cc

Subje Torreya Guardians seeds for distribution

ct

From: Lee Barnes [mailto:(b) (6)]

Subject: 2008 Torreya Guardians Seed Distribution

Dear Torreya Guardians,

We are pleased to again offer packets of *Torreya taxifolia* (Florida Stinking Cedar) seed from the 2007 seed harvest at Biltmore Estate in Asheville, NC. We thank Bill Alexander and his staff for collecting and sharing seeds for this grassroots distribution project. We are releasing 20 packets, each with 5 male and 5 female seeds to allow for better pollination. We are first offering seeds to the 2006 Distribution volunteers since most of them experienced low germination rates from refrigerator stored seeds. Seeds are currently being stored under natural temperatures but should be requested as soon as possible due to my recovery from hip surgery in mid-March.

Thanks to Connie Barlow for her detailed notes taken during her site visit in December 2007 to the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Ron Determann's generous sharing of their highly successful germination procedures is available from our website <http://www.torreyaguardians.org/propagate.html>. Connie also has provided additional photographs and additional information on rooting cuttings, as well as, more info on site selection, shading and need for periodic liming. I will provide copies of this information with each mailing.

Key to successful germination is cold stratification to duplicate nature's cycles in ground beds that get the full range of daily temperature cycles (freeze/thaw) vs. constant 40-45 degree F. temperature storage in a refrigerator. The seeds to be distributed have only been partially stratified so you will need to plant them in protected beds where they receive natural temperatures for a month or two. Simple wire screening is recommended to protect from squirrels.

Please email your requests to me and provide complete shipping information. Connie and I are donating all mailing and packing costs and ask that you occasionally report germination status, and plant growth, fruiting, and seed production. Volunteers need to be committed for 10-15 years before good seed production is expected and be willing to further distribute seeds.

Thank you for your interest in preserving our national botanical treasure
Torreya-

Happy Trails, Lee

PS from Connie:

1. This summer, Orion Magazine will be publishing a feature article on Torreya Guardians work in a time of climate change.
2. Also, do periodically check the "comments" page of our website to see what's happening, along with new ideas:
<<http://www.torreyaguardians.org/comments.html>>
3. Watch the rewilding page too, especially the July 2007 post I made there

about Atlanta Botanical Gardens looking for iNSTITUTIONS to send seeds and seedlings to. They've got a huge inventory. Unlike Torreya Guardians, they cannot send seeds to individuals, but nature centers and botanical gardens should contact Ron Determann at Atlanta Botanical Garden directly to participate.

<<http://www.torreyaguardians.org/rewilding.html>>

Lee Barnes

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