

Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Field Day  
Gary Liebsch Farm, Glenwood, IA  
June 24, 2014  
5:00 pm – 7:30 pm

We met at the McDonald's in Glenwood to carpool to the Liebsch property at 5:00 pm. There were 7 people in attendance.

Mr. Liebsch showed us several different areas on his farm that had been cleared with tree shearing, hand cutting, and prescribed fire. An oak savanna that had had a very intense fire is showing signs of life after 2 years of seemingly dead oak trees. In addition to the prairie work that has been done, Mr. Liebsch is undertaking some forest stand improvement to release some larger oaks and other mast trees and create better wildlife habitat.

Programs used include AGO and EQIP. Mr. Liebsch is currently working with Lindsey Barney, the District Forester on his forest stand improvement and has a conservation easement through The Nature Conservancy on 1,000 acres in the Burr Oak SLA.

Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Field Day  
Bob and Jane Madsen Farm – Plant Survey, Hornick, IA  
August 6, 2014  
3:30 pm – 6:30 pm

We met at the Kum and Go gas station in Sloan to carpool to the Madsen property at 3:30 pm. There were 7 people in attendance despite the rainy weather.

Since our group was small and some people were there to learn, we stayed together and identified plants on a meandering path up the slope from the farmstead, along the ridge a few yards, then down a western spur before retracing our path to leave. In our short time there, we identified over 30 species and took pictures of species needing identification. The species list will go to Bob and Jane Madsen and the field day attendees.

The Madsens have been restoring their prairie for over 20 years and have utilized the EQIP and WHIP programs. Their Grant Center SLA farm is permanently protected via a conservation easement through the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation.

