



Fall 2023 Update on Arid Land Research Fund - Mining Disturbance Revegetation



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The Problem – Revegetating Mine Disturbance Can Be Difficult

Millions of dollars are spent every year in revegetating mining disturbance

These efforts are not always successful - it can be very difficult to re-establish vegetation in the semi-arid US Southwest – Bingham Canyon waste rock heaps seen here have stubbornly resisted all attempts at revegetation since 1906

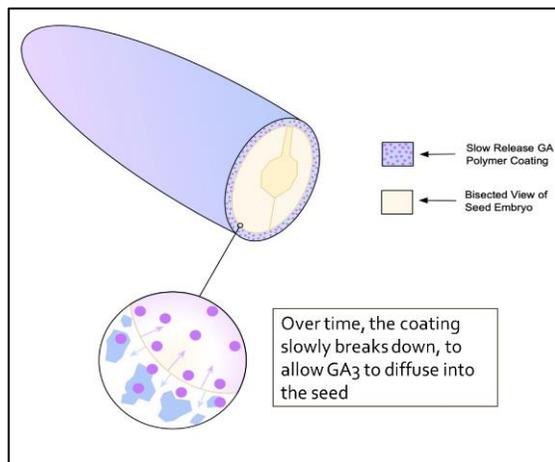


Historic Waste Rock Heap, Bingham Canyon Mine, UT

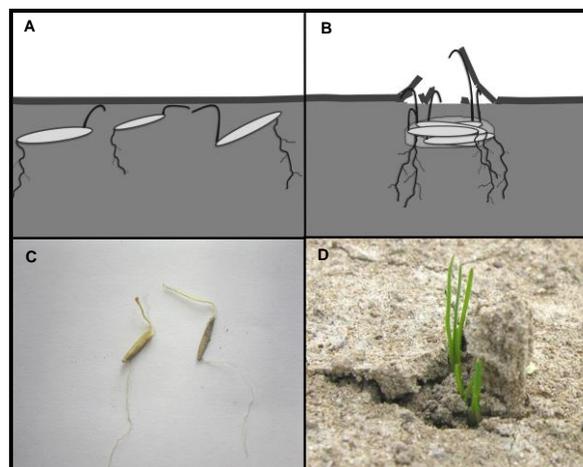
A Solution - Nevada Miners Are Backing UNR's “Coated and Pelletized Seeds Technology”

Coating and pelletizing greatly improves the ability of seeds to re-establish:

- 800% increase in germination through scarification and pelletizing of *Sand Dropseed*
- 400% increase in establishment of *Indian Ricegrass*
- 300% increase in establishment of grasses treated with fungicide coatings



Gibberellic Acid Coated Seed



Pelletized seeds can break through hardpan

UNR's 5-Year Coated and Pelletized Seed Research Program

- A 5-year program to test proprietary Indian ricegrass seed coatings, utilizing time-released gibberillic acid, was initiated near Tonopah in Southern Nevada in early 2023
- Early results in 2023 confirmed a significant increase in germination with coated seeds
- Test plots are now being established on un-rehabilitated drill pads at Tonopah to optimize the best seed coatings for commercial use
- Testing will continue through spring/summer of 2024, followed by large-scale trials in 2025 and 2026
- Coated seeds are targeted to be commercially available by 2026



Planting Coated Seeds on A Drill Pad, Tonopah, October 2023

UNR Appreciates the Financial Support of:

American Lithium

Centerra Gold

Century Lithium

Fortitude Gold

Pan American Energy

West Vault Mining

Financially support the Arid Land Research Fund at:

- <https://www.unr.edu/cabnr/arid-lands-research-fund>

<https://www.unr.edu/cabnr/arid-lands-research-fund/seed-coating>, Contact Prof. Tamzen Stringham at 775-220-6602, tstringham@unr.edu, or Sandy McVey at 778 388 2464, smcvey@westvaultmining.com