Salix miyabeana ‘SX67’

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The State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF) presents ‘SX67’, a fast-growing shrub willow. ‘SX67’ produces high biomass yields across a variety of sites. It is disease and beetle resistant, and is well suited for biomass plantings and privacy hedges.

Photo by Benjamin Ballard

Photo by Kimberly Cameron

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Botanical Name: *Salix sachalinensis* 'SX67'
(Family: Salicaceae)

Hardiness: U.S.D.A. Zones 4 - 6

Origin: 'SX67' was obtained from the University of Toronto as part of a research project to develop new willow cultivars that generate high biomass yields on a variety of sites, display resistance to diseases and pests, and possess agronomic traits suitable for mechanical planting, harvesting, and post-harvest processing. *S. miyabeana* is native to Asia.

Significance: 'SX67' is a shrub willow cultivar displaying exceptionally rapid growth, annually produces 4-6 dry tons of woody biomass per acre in yield trials, and displays low incidence of rust disease or damage by beetle. Woody stems can be harvested every three to four years, and new shoots will re-sprout the following season. Repeated harvesting of shrub willow plantations can be sustained for at least 15 years.

Description:
Height and Width: 15-20 feet tall, 3-5 foot crown spread at 3 years when grown at 2 x 3 foot spacing.
Habit: Fast-growing, deciduous shrub with multiple small-diameter, vertical stems.
Foliage: Green oblong leaves, typically 3-3.5 inches long, 0.5-1 inches wide, with foliage April through October in Zone 5.
Bark: Three-year old stem is green with slightly cracking bark and red lenticels.
Flowers: Male, early spring.
Pollen: Viable pollen produced in early spring.

Culture: Adaptable to a wide range of soil and moisture conditions. Prefers maximum sunlight.

Propagation: Roots easily from dormant stem cuttings.

Uses: Excellent for bioenergy plantations, privacy hedges, living snowfences and in ornamental plantings.

Availability: Available from Double A Willow (**www.doubleawillow.com**) beginning Spring 2007.

For information on the SUNY-ESF Willow Biomass Program go to **www.esf.edu/willow**.

Fact sheet prepared by Kimberly Cameron, Lawrence Smart, Benjamin Ballard, Timothy Volk, and Lawrence Abrahamson.

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