

The University Of Texas At Austin, Office Of Technology Commercialization ,United States

The Office of Technology Commercialization is responsible for the efficient transfer of university discoveries to the marketplace for the benefit of society. To support the university's research mission, OTC:

- * Evaluates, protects, markets, and licenses the university's inventions and software
- * Assists in the formation of startups
- * Promotes collaboration with industry, investors, and others within the tech commercialization ecosystem
- * Informs the university's faculty on patent protection and commercialization processes

Services

Transferred technology adds to the universal body of knowledge and brings benefits to society. Companies profit financially from licensing new technologies. And exposing science to the marketplace brings revenue back to the university to fund new and continued research.

The University of Texas at Austin has been a highly prolific research institution for years. Remaining on the cutting edge of technology requires careful assessment and effective commercialization of the university's IP. This is the primary goal of OTC.

- **Sector** :Technology Transfer

Team

- GAYLE BURSTEIN, PH.D., Licensing specialist
- TOM BAUGHMAN, Program Director, Life sciences

Skysystem-Green-Roof Native Plant Mixes For Hot And Arid Climates

Sector :Agriculture

Researchers at UT Austin have created mixtures of native plants grown as sod for green roofs. Unlike most green roof mixes, these mixtures contain 100% native plants that can tolerate high soil and air temperatures while providing a native habitat. The plant mixtures are very drought-tolerant and are highly suitable for the hot climates of the southern and southwestern United States.

Description

Green roofs have the potential to retain storm water on the roof surface and lower the thermal loading on buildings. Green roof technology could be especially beneficial in the American South and Southwest, where drought conditions are persistent. However, current commercial green-roof plant mixes perform poorly in these hotter climates, as most of the plant species used are not optimized for these arid and hot conditions.

Primary Benefits

Benefits/advantages

- Produces building cooling efficiency
- Provides storm water storage
- Enables green-roof use in the American Southwest
- Adaptable for green walls

Features

- Plants are 100% native to the American Southwest.
- Plants are tolerant to high soil and air temperatures.
- Ability to use green roofs efficiently in hot and arid climates

Development Status

- **Stage of Development** : Pre-Commercial use
- **Time to Market** : Less than 1 year

Market & Competition

Green roof industry; EcoBio walls

Potential Sectors

Environmental
Agriculture

Potential Regions

United States

Interest In

Inventors

Mark Simmons, Ph.D., Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Centre