

ANNUAL BLUEGRASS

Poa annua



ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION

Introduced from Europe, and has become naturalized over most of the U.S. Invades lawns and turf grasses. Small, annual, cool season tufted bunchgrass. Plants 1 to 8" tall with panicle head 1 to 2" long. Sometimes growing in water, plants will become taller and slender.

GROWTH HABITS AND ENVIRONMENT PREFERENCES

Growth begins in the fall or early spring and blooms very early. Some blooming occurs in the fall. Plants often found on dry shallow soils. Makes the most growth where fall moisture is available. May die out with hot weather.

CULTURE

Plant seed 1/4 to 1/2" deep on coarse textured soils and 1/4" or shallower on fine-textured soils. Plant at 1 to 2 lbs. PLS per acre. Good seedling vigor and early growth.

USE AND MANAGEMENT

Used for lawns, paths, along streams, and roadsides. Tolerates close mowing and produces seed under regular mowing height of 1/2". Under cool conditions volunteer stands provide good to fair turf. May be useful as fall and spring cover in Bermuda grass fairways. Over seed for green cover during winter in the south.

IMPROVED VARIETIES

Plant breeders are working on selecting more useful and desirable varieties of annual bluegrass.



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