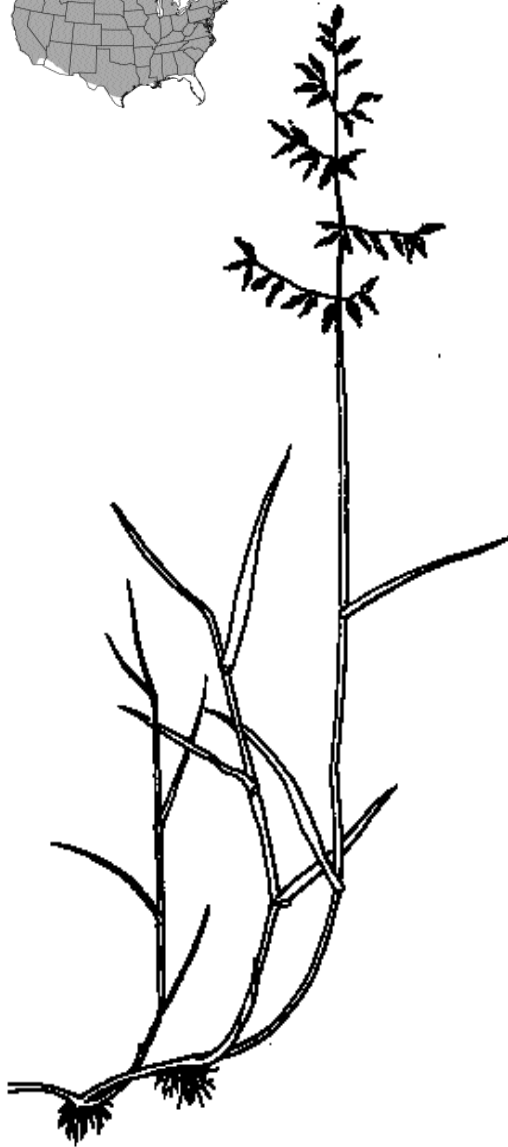


CANADA BLUEGRASS

Poa compressa



ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION

Introduced from Eurasia and naturalized in disturbed areas in Kentucky bluegrass range. Grows in more open, bunchy sods than Kentucky bluegrass. Low growing rhizomatous perennial grass; has distinctly flat stems, short blue green to dark green leaves, head is a short condensed panicles.

GROWTH HABIT AND ENVIRONMENT PREFERENCE

Thrives in moist, cool, temperate climates, fertile sandy to clayey alluvial soils high in organic matter. Tolerates moderately acid, drought, thin soil in sites with over 15" ppt. in northeastern and western mountains regions. Adapted to open, rather poor, dry soils.

CULTURE

Drill no deeper than 1/2" on heavier soils or 1/4" on lighter textured soils. Often broadcasted and rolled or cultipacked to press seed into surface soil. Supplemental mulch improves stand establishment. Seeding about 0.5 to 1 lb. PLS per acre forage or 1 to 2 lbs. seed per 1,000-sq. ft. for turf. Need to keep moist for establishment. Consider sod transplanting where early rapid cover is desired.

Plant in early fall (August to September) or early spring for humid lowland elevations, late fall, especially when a legume is included and soils not subject to crusting.

USE AND MANAGEMENT

Used for low maintenance landscaping, stabilization of disturbed soils, and in pasture mixtures on poorer sites not suited to higher producing pasture species. Does not withstand heavy grazing. Sometimes used in Ohio and Illinois coal districts for reclamation of coal mines.

IMPROVED VARIETIES

- 'Rubens' released by Jacklin Seed Co.
- 'Canon' released from Canada.
- 'Talon'.
- 'Foothills' released from Montana.

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