

MOUNTAIN BROME

Bromus marginatus



ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION

Native to the Intermountain West, Northern and central Rocky Mountains. Rapidly developing, short-lived, medium-sized, cool season bunchgrass. Tufted with fibrous, shallow roots. Coarse culms 1 to 4' tall. Inflorescence a narrow open panicle, 4 to 6" long with erect or spreading (not nodding) branches. Freely interbreeds with California brome (*B. carinatus*) and foothill brome (*B. polyanthus*) to form a "mountain brome complex."

GROWTH HABITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PREFERENCES

Thrives on moderately deep, fertile, moist, medium to fine-textured soils but moderately

vigorous on thin, infertile, coarser, fairly dry soils, especially in open communities and disturbed sites. Tolerant of fair salinity but intolerant of high water tables and early spring flooding. Vigorous native stands occur in 18" ppt. Has weak moderate drought tolerance. Good winter hardiness. Common in foothills to about 10,000' elevations. Only fair tolerance of wildfires and survives chiefly by seed. Stand longevity of 3 to 5 years, good self-seeding habits. Shade-tolerant species.

CULTURE

Drill seed about 1/2 – 3/4" deep on finer textured soils, up to 1" deep on medium and coarse textured soils. Species commonly seeded at 10 to 20 lbs. PLS per acre on rangeland. Rate may be increased on disturbed soils and on harsh or eroding surfaces. Seed in late fall or as early in summer as possible in higher mountains. Excellent seedling vigor. Control weeds and protect from grazing until plants are well rooted and mature seeds have developed.

USE AND MANAGEMENT

Good palatability to livestock and elk when green. Only fair palatability to deer in spring. Canada geese pluck young plants. Seeds relished by livestock in fall. Moderate regrowth in summer but only fair regrowth production in fall. Use as a pioneer species in seeding mixtures to revegetate livestock and big game ranges and to protect roads, ski slopes, mined lands, and burned-over forest lands. Rotation grazing of native stands is best management for species. Encourage self-seeding to improve stand longevity.

IMPROVED VARIETIES

'Bromar' released from Washington.

'Garnet' released from Colorado.

PawneeButtesSeedInc.

PawneeButtesSeed.com 1-800-782-5947