

SIDEOATS GRAMA

Bouteloua curtipendula



ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION

Native to U.S. and widely distributed eastward from Rocky Mountains. Warm season, bunchy sod-forming grass, erect 1 to 3' tall, usually with short scaley rhizomes. Leaves bluish-green, drying brown. Spike-like head with 1 to 12 (or more) spikelets dangling from one side of the rachis. Spikelets fall off after maturity.

GROWTH HABITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PREFERENCES

Adapted to wide spectrum of sandy to clayey soils and less tolerant of loose sands and heavy clays. Some tolerance of soil salinity. Best on finely textured soils of uplands with 17 to 20" ppt. in central Great Plains. Also grows with 12 to 16" ppt. in the Southwest. Moderate drought

resistance. Good winter hardiness with well adapted strains. Southern strains or seed sources usually produce more forage but may not be winter hardy. Use caution in selecting seed sources. May be damaged by fire unless properly timed and controlled.

CULTURE

Plant 1/4 – 1/2" deep on finely textured and 3/4" on coarse textured soils. Firm seedbed desired. Seed in non-volunteering crop stubble or mulch on eroded sites. Irrigation, if available, aids in getting stands started. Plant 4 to 8 lbs. PLS per acre, more if broadcasting on bare or harsher sites or for denser, early stands. Seeding dates vary from April 1 to May 15 in central Great Plains, and January to April in southern Great Plains and June 15 to July 15 for Transpecos and Southwest. New seedlings require weed control by grazing, herbicides or mowing.

USE AND MANAGEMENT

Used for range forage, pasture and hay, mixtures (or pure stands) in conservation work on eroding fields, depleted ranges and bare fields. Graze stands moderately, leave 3 to 6" of stubble. High palatability in late spring and summer. Fair forage value when mature. Most widely distributed grama grass usually occurring in mixtures, with blue grama, little bluestem and certain forbs and shrubs.

IMPROVED VARIETIES

- 'Niner' released from New Mexico.
- 'Butte' released from Nebraska.
- 'Coronado' released from New Mexico.
- 'Pierre' released from South Dakota.
- 'Premier' released from Mexico.
- 'Trailway' released from Nebraska.
- 'Tucson' released from Arizona.
- 'Uvalde' released from Texas.
- 'Vaughn' released from New Mexico.
- 'El Reno' released from Oklahoma.
- 'Haskell' released from Texas.

PawneeButtesSeed Inc.

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