

KLEINGRASS

Panicum coloratum



ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION

A warm season, perennial bunchgrass introduced from Africa. It is fine stemmed, leafy and grows 3 to 4' tall at maturity. Quite variable in makeup, sometimes prostrate but mostly erect. Tends to spread by tillers or short rhizomes, and will root at the nodes when stems contact moist soil. Seed head is a fine-branched panicle, sometimes almost fan-shaped, similar to the switchgrass panicle head.

GROWTH HABITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PREFERENCES

Adapted to a wide range of heavy soils and dry conditions in central Texas and on wet soils in the Gulf coast. Has been grown successfully on

shallow and deep sandy soils and medium textured soils in the Rio Grande Plains. Considerable drought tolerance but not cold tolerant. Adapted to southern New Mexico, and Oklahoma, Texas, and Arizona. Does well on loamy to clayey soils and is salt tolerant. Good forage production with 18" to 24" ppt. or under irrigation.

CULTURE

Drill 1/4 - 3/4" deep on fine soils and up to 1" deep on coarser or prepacked sandy soils. Plant 1 to 2 lbs. PLS per acre depending on stand desired and 50 - 100% more seed on erosive sites or broadcasting. Seed in non-volunteering crop stubble for better stands on erosive sites. Planted in the spring after danger of frost is past or in early fall. Initial growth is slow and weed control is necessary. Grazing should be restricted until new plants are well established.

USE AND MANAGEMENT

Used for hay, pasture and silage, primarily used in Texas. Makes large tonnage of good quality hay if harvested at the proper time. Also used in conservation, soil stabilization and revegetation on depleted soils or range conditions. May be grazed rather heavily if used in a short duration grazing system. May be damaged with extended periods of over grazing. Palatability is best if utilized before maturity. Fertilize for optimum growth and production.

Responds well to fertilizer and irrigation. Cures for good winter forage in drier regions. Growth starts in early spring and continues to late fall.

IMPROVED VARIETIES

'Selection-75', 'TEM-LD1', 'TEM-SR1',

and 'Verde' released from Texas.

'OKPC-1' released from Oklahoma.

Pawnee Buttes Seed Inc.

PawneeButtesSeed.com 1-800-782-5947