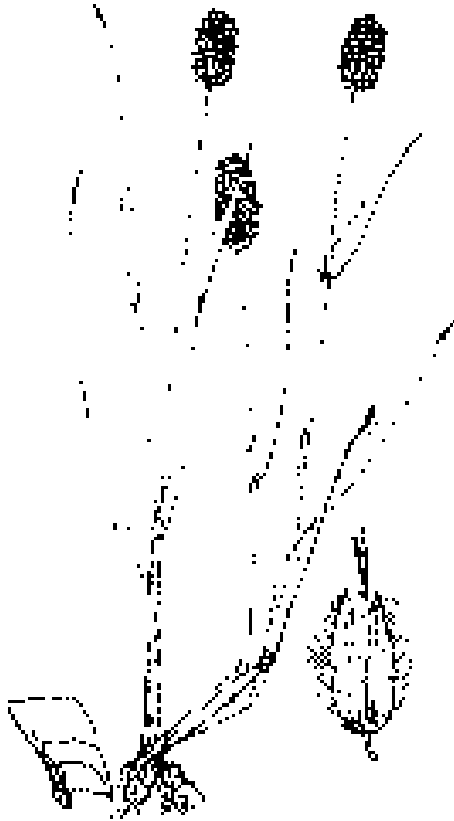


# ALPINE TIMOTHY

*Phleum alpinum*



## ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION

Native, short grass, somewhat sod-forming with culms 6 to 24" tall. Occurs in higher elevations and higher latitudes worldwide. Grows in the cooler and higher regions of western U.S. Panicle head is very dense, egg-shaped, 1/2 to 2" long, usually purple. Awned heads give alpine timothy a bristle appearance. The shorter spike-like panicle, wider at base, glumes longer awned, swollen upper sheath, and lack of bulb-like bases distinguish alpine timothy from common timothy.

## GROWTH HABITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PREFERENCES

Alpine timothy is cold tolerant grass occurring in the alpine and subalpine zones. Common in mountain meadows, bogs and wet places. Naturally revegetates somewhat in open or disturbed sites in western mountains. Also grows on relatively well-drained soils and grassy slopes. Good performance in reclamation tests in Montana on alpine mine wastes.

Associated with other moisture loving plants such as bluegrass's, tufted hairgrass, meadow sedges, and rushes, redtop and willows.

## CULTURE

Plant seed 1/4 - 1/2" deep on coarse textured soils and 1/4" or shallower on fine-textured soils. Better stands obtained on firm seedbed. Drill a minimum of 1 to 2 lbs. PLS per acre for satisfactory stands. Increase rate 50 - 100% for harsh sites, steep open exposures, poorer seedbeds and when broadcasting. Plant seed as soon after disturbance as possible in mountain environment. Mulching is recommended. Protect new seeding from grazing.

## USE AND MANAGEMENT

Good palatability to all classes of livestock, elk and deer. Use in seeding mixtures to revegetate livestock and big game ranges, to protect road, ski slopes, and mined lands. Produces good forage that remains green throughout the summer and valuable as a late season feed.

## IMPROVED VARIETIES

None listed for region.