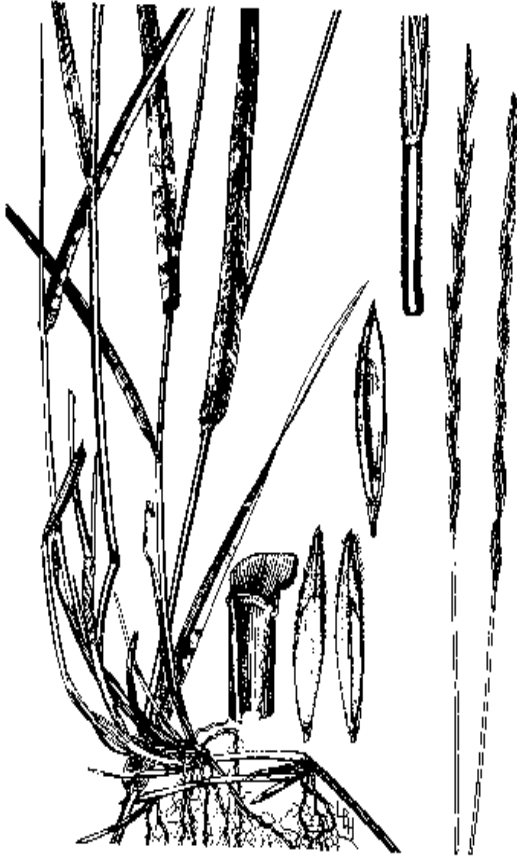


PUBESCENT WHEATGRASS

Elytrigia intermedia



ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION

Native cool season, long-lived, sod-former from U.S.S.R. Grown over most of northwestern and western 1/3 of U.S. Introduced for range forage and conservation uses. Very similar to intermediate wheatgrass but distinguished by dense pubescence on spikes, spikelets and lemmas. Inflorescence long narrow spikes 4 – 6" long.

GROWTH HABITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PREFERENCES

Adapted to almost same areas as intermediate wheatgrass but slightly more tolerant of drought, heat and salt. Does best on fine-textured,

medium to high fertile soil in cool subhumid climate. Also used on sandy and semiarid zones on moist sites. Tolerant of basic and weakly acidic soils and of moderate salinity. Needs 15" ppt. and does not withstand overgrazing. Can tolerate early flooding for 3 to 5 weeks and water-table up to 3' depth.

CULTURE

Drill seed 1/2 – 3/4" deep and even 1" in coarser soils. Seed 5 to 15 lbs. PLS per acre depending on moisture conditions and stand desired. Increase up to 15 to 25 lbs. PLS per acre for broadcast seeding. Plant early spring or late fall and can be sodded in critical areas. Excellent seedling vigor. Weed control should be practiced especially in seedling stages. Do not graze until headed and firmly rooted.

USE AND MANAGEMENT

Used widely for hay and pasture, also for conservation on disturbed lands, roadways, ditch lands, etc. May be used in native mixes with other cool-season grasses, legumes, forbs and shrubs. Good palatability when green, but only fair in winter.

Not quite as palatable as intermediate wheatgrass. Starts growth about same time in spring as crested wheatgrass. Matures late and has longer growing period. Palatable to cattle in spring and somewhat palatable in winter. Fair volume of summer regrowth and good fall regrowth with ample moisture.

IMPROVED VARIETIES

- 'Luna' released from New Mexico.
- 'Topar' released from Washington and Idaho.
- 'Mandan 759' released from North Dakota.
- 'Greenleaf' released from Canada.
- 'Manska'.

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