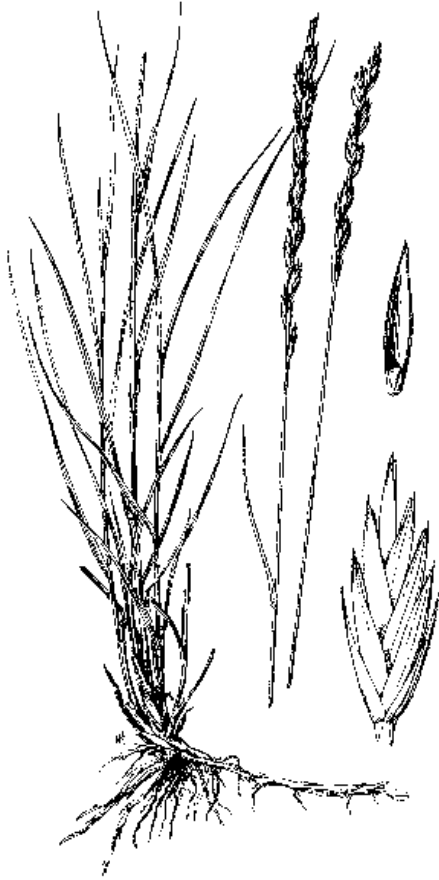


WESTERN WHEATGRASS

Pascopyrum smithii



ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION

Native to U.S. and of primary importance of northern Great Plains but occurs in every western state. Widely distributed from Wisconsin to central Washington and south into New Mexico and Texas panhandle. Major range grass in northern and central Great Plains. Medium height cool season, long-lived, coarse-leaf, sod-forming perennial grass. One to 3' tall, with strong spreading rhizomes. Blueish green leaves. Inflorescence a short, stiff spike 2 to 6" long with spikelets tightly overlapping and somewhat flattened with 4 to 10 flowers per spikelet.

GROWTH HABITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PREFERENCES

Likes fine-textured soils with moderate to higher moisture levels. Will tolerate coarser soils and often planted in the Great Plains. Tolerant of strong soil salinity and to saline sodic soils. Tolerant to poor drainage, water tables to 6" of surface and also of early spring flooding. Generally adapted to 14" to 20" ppt. areas. Grows up to 9,000' elevation.

CULTURE

Drill 1/2 – 3/4" deep in fine and medium textured soils. Cover lightly if broadcasted. Seeding rates 7 to 15 lbs. PLS. Heavier rates when broadcast seeding or on critical areas. Seed in early spring and late fall, but seeding time can vary from region to region.

Control weeds in early part of first growing season with herbicides, skillful grazing management or mowing.

USE AND MANAGEMENT

Used for pasture and hay. Also used in erosion control in conservation practices and in critical area soil stabilization and mine reclamation. Easier managed when seeded alone but may be recommended for use with other grasses not differing greatly in palatability and phenology.

Leave 3 to 4" stubble when grazing to maintain stands. Palatable in early growth stages.

IMPROVED VARIETIES

'Arriba' released from Colorado and New Mexico.

'Barton' released from Kansas.

'Rosana' released from Montana and Wyoming.

'Flintlock' released from Nebraska.

'Mandan 456' released from North and South Dakota.

'Rodan' released from North Dakota.

PawneeButtesSeed Inc.
PawneeButtesSeed.com 1-800-782-5947