

Native and Introduced Grasses, Identification and Value

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Forage Value for Livestock

Common Name	Scientific Name	Codes	Cattle	Sheep	Goats
Indiangrass	Sorghastrum nutans	NPW	E	E	F
Big bluestem	Andropogon gerardii	NPW	G to E	G to E	F
Little bluestem	Schizachyrium scoparium	NPW	F	F	F
Switchgrass	Panicum virgatum	NPW	G	G	P
Eastern gamagrass	Tripsacum dactyloides	NPW	G to E	G to E	G to E
Sideoats grama	Bouteloua curtipendula	NPW	G	G	G
Buffalograss	Bouteloua dactyloides	NPW	E	E	G
Scribner's dichanthellum	Dichanthellum oligosanthes	NPC	G	G	G
Virginia wildrye	Elymus virginicus	NPC	E	E	E
Canada wildrye	Elymus canadensis	NPC	E	E	E
Arizona cottontop	Digitaria californica	NPW	G	G	G
Green sprangletop	Leptochloa dubia	NPW	G	G	G
Texas bluegrass	Poa arachnifera	NPC	G	G	G
Southwestern bristle	Setaria scheelei	NPW	G	G	G
Broadleaf woodoats	Chasmanthium latifolium	NPW	G	G	P
Hooded windmill	Chloris cucullata	NPW	G	G	G
Vine mesquite	Panicum obtusum	NPW	G	G	G
Silver bluestem	Bothriochloa laguroides ssp. torreyana	NPW	F	F	P
Bushy bluestem	Andropogon glomeratus	NPW	F	P	P
Texas wintergrass	Nassella leucotricha	NPC	F to G	F to G	F to G
Hairyseed paspalum	Paspalum pubiflorum	NPW	G	G	G
White tridens	Tridens albescens	NPW	F	F	F
Slim tridens	Tridens multicus var. muticus	NPW	F	F	F
Purpletop tridens	Tridens flavus	NPW	F	F	F
Meadow dropseed	Sporobolus compositus	NPW	F to P	F to P	P
Threeawn species	Aristida spp.	NP/AW	P	P	P
Hairy grama	Bouteloua hirsuta	NPW	F	F	P
Texas grama	Bouteloua rigidisetia	NPW	P	P	P
Hairy tridens	Eriogonum pilosum	NPW	P	P	P
<i>Introduced Grasses</i>					
Giant reed	Arundo donax - Invasive species	IPW	eaten but undesirable		
Johnsongrass	Sorghum halepense - Invasive species	IPW	G	G	G
Cheat grass	Bromus tectorum - Invasive species	IAC	P	P	P
Rescue grass	Bromus catharticus - Invasive species	IAC	G	G	G
King Ranch bluestem	Bothriochloa ischaemum - Invasive sp.	IPW	F to G	F to G	P
Kleingrass	Panicum coloratum - photosensitization	IPW	G	swell	swell
Bermuda	Cynodon dactylon - Invasive species	IPW	G	G	P
Ryegrass	Lolium multiflorum - Invasive species	IAC	F	F	P
Tall fescue	Festuca arundinacea	IPC	F	*	*

CODES:

Origin:
 N = Native of Texas
 I = Introduced, non-native
 Longevity
 A = Annual life
 P = Perennial

Season of Growth
 W = Warm-season growth
 C = Cool-season growth
 * Research before grazing

Forage Value

E = Excellent
 G = Good
 F = Fair
 P = Poor