

Timothy

Phleum pratense

Description

Very useful for hay and cattle grazing.

Habit

Perennial, tufted grass from fibrous roots; stems usually enlarged and more or less bulbous at the base, grows up to 100 cm tall.

Leaves

Sheaths open, glabrous, ligules 2-3 mm long, entire, obtuse, blades flat, 4-8 mm broad, scabrous-margined.

Stems

(20) 50-150 cm, usually erect, lower internodes frequently enlarged or bulbous.

Flowers

Inflorescence, spike-like, cylindric panicle is 5-10 cm long, spikelets have 1-flower, strongly flattened, glumes 3-4 mm long with hairs on the keel, abruptly truncate and with a stout awn 1-1.5 mm long, lemmas pubescent, 2 mm long; the





mid-nerve prolonged as a short bristle, paleas
subequal to the lemmas, 2-nerved.

Fruits and Seeds

Small, hard seeds, produces an abundant
amount.

Habitat

Native to Eurasia. Found in pastures, mesic fields, roadsides, waste areas and disturbed sites.

Reproduction

By seed or vegetatively by tillering.

Similar

Species of bristlegrass (*Setaria* spp.); species of Foxtail (*Alopecurus* spp.); and native Alpine timothy (*Phleum alpinum*).

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Hand-pulling; frequent cutting or mowing can weaken plant health.

Credits

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