

Wood bluegrass

Poa nemoralis

Description

Nutritious for livestock, which feed on it in autumn months.

Habit

Grows 30-80 cm in height. Forms loose tufts and is more delicate and slender in appearance than other grasses.

Leaves

Dark green, lance shaped, sheath open 3/4 length to near base; ligule less than 0.5 mm, minutely scabrous, truncate, blade 1.5-4mm wide, soft, generally flat, abruptly spreading, barely prow-tipped.

Stems

Slender, leafy, 30-80 cm high, green to light brown at maturity. Panicle is slender, loose, and branched.

Flowers

Small individual flowers encased in bracts called





lemmas. Attached to the long stem by a shorter stem. Flowers are smaller than 1/24 in and change from green to light brown at maturity.

Fruits and Seeds

Contains many simple seeds. Florets grow outward along the stem in dense clusters. Each floret is a long, elliptical container encased by lemmas and coming to a sharp point. Mature florets break open to release seeds.

Habitat

Native to Eurasia. Grows well in disturbed sites, forest edges and clearings, old homesites, rock ledges and bluffs.

Reproduction

By seed.

Similar

Other species of Poa.

Credits

The information provided in this factsheet was gathered from the French Hill Pond Field Plants, Jepson Herbarium and Wikipedia. Individual species images that appear with a number in a black box are courtesy of the Bugwood.org network (<http://www.invasive.org>). Individual photo author credits may not be included due to the small display size of the images and subsequent difficulty of reading the provided text. All other images appear courtesy of Google (<http://images.google.com>).