

Caucasian bluestem

Bothriochloa bladhii

Description

Introduced to the United States as a forage grass.

Habit

Perennial grass growing up to 59 in. in height.

Leaves

Cauline with glabrous leaf blades; 8-14 in. long and 0.04-0.2 in. wide. The membranous ligule is 0.02-0.06 in. long with sparse white hairs. When crushed, they have a strong turpentine smell.

Stems

Culms are erect and grow 40-90 cm.

Flowers

Reddish panicle that grows 2-6 in. long. Central rachis grow from 2-5 in. long with many branches that range from 1.2-3 in. long. Spikelets have awns that grow 0.4-0.7 in. long.

Fruits and Seeds

Fruit (Caryopsis) are lanceolate to oblong and





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somewhat flattened.

Habitat

Native to subtropical Africa and Asia. Can be found in roadsides, rangeland pastures, waste places, and open disturbed sites. Established in the southern and central United States.

Reproduction

By seed and short rhizomes.

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Credits

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