

## BC Native Grasses

Name	Growth form	Height of growth	Erosion control	B.C. Provenance	Ecology and Notes
Idaho Fescue ( <i>Festuca idahoensis</i> )	Bunchgrass	30 - 90 cm	Good	South Interior low to subalpine	Adapted to dry habitats primarily rocky slopes and clearings. Interior grasslands.
Western Fescue ( <i>Festuca occidentalis</i> )	Bunchgrass	25-70 cm	Good	Coastal and Interior low to mid elevations	Dry to moist open forests and clearings
Rough Fescue ( <i>Festuca scabrella</i> )	Bunchgrass	60 - 100 cm	Good	South Interior low to mid elevations.	Dry to moist open forests and grasslands
Rocky Mountain Fescue ( <i>Festuca saximontana</i> )	Bunchgrass	25- 50 cm	Good	Interior mid to high elevation	Dry grasslands and open forests. Absent from moist sites.
Red Fescue ( <i>Festuca rubra</i> )	Rhizomatous	20-100 cm	Good	Coastal and Interior from sea level to high elevations	Low elevation grasslands and mountain meadows. Commonly found along stream banks, roadsides and other clearings in all but the driest regions.
Alpine Timothy ( <i>Phleum alpinum</i> )	Bunchgrass	to 50 cm	Good	Coastal mid to high elevation also Interior alpine and sub alpine	Meadows and stream banks
Big Bluegrass ( <i>Poa ampla</i> )	Bunchgrass	60-120 cm	Good	Coastal and Interior low to mid elevations	Easily established. Moist open areas. Intolerant of poorly drained soils or high water tables.

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Sandberg Bluegrass ( <i>Poa sandbergii</i> )	Bunchgrass	to 30 cm	Poor	Southern Interior low to mid elevations	Common in low elevation grasslands, dry slopes and clay flats.
Alpine Bluegrass ( <i>Poa alpina</i> )	Bunchgrass	5 - 30 cm	Good	Interior higher elevations	Open subalpine meadows and rocky slopes
Fowl Bluegrass ( <i>Poa palustris</i> )	Bunchgrass	40 - 120 cm	Very Good	Coastal and Interior low to mid elevations	This species is described as both native and introduced from Eurasia. Very common in wetlands, sloughs, moist forests and shores.
Mountain Brome ( <i>Bromus marginatus</i> )	Bunchgrass	60 - 120 cm	Very Good	Coastal and Interior low to mid elevations	Syn. California Brome ( <i>B carinatus</i> ). Grows in open woods and moist meadows.
Fringed Brome ( <i>Bromus ciliatus</i> )	Bunchgrass	70-120 cm	Very Good	Interior mid to subalpine	Moist forests, meadows and wetlands.
Tufted Hairgrass ( <i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i> )	Bunchgrass	20 - 120 cm	Good	Coastal and Interior	Common throughout most regions in moist meadows, on slough margins and in boggy areas.
Hair Bentgrass ( <i>Agrostis scabra</i> )	Bunchgrass	20 - 50 cm	Poor	Coastal and Interior low to mid elevations	Also called Ticklegrass and Rough Hairgrass. Dry to wet clearings, rocky slopes and gravelly river bars.
Prairie Junegrass ( <i>Koeleria cristata</i> )	Bunchgrass	20 - 50 cm	Good	Interior low to high elevations	Prefers well drained grasslands and open forests. One of the most common grassland species.

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Bluebunch Wheatgrass <i>(Pseudoroegneria spicata)</i>	Bunchgrass	60 - 100 cm	Good	Interior low to mid elevations	Drought tolerant. Widely adapted interior grass. Common to grasslands and dry open forests.
Blue Wildrye <i>(Elymus glaucus)</i>	Bunchgrass	50 - 150 cm	Excellent	Coastal and Interior low to mid elevations	Rapid establishment. Relatively short lived. Attractive blue-green foliage. Common to moist open forests and clearings.
Slender Wheatgrass <i>(Elymus trachycaulus)</i>	Bunchgrass	60 - 120 cm	Very Good	Southern Interior occasional in northern regions	Moderate drought tolerance. Rapid establishment with dense fibrous roots. Short lived in driest regions.
Streambank Wheatgrass <i>(Elymus lanceolatus)</i>	Rhizomatous	up to 100 cm	Excellent	Interior	Drought tolerant. Especially suited for stabilizing highly erosive silty to sandy soils. Tolerates periodic flooding.
Western Wheatgrass <i>(Pascopyrum smithii)</i>	Rhizomatous	60 - 90 cm	Very Good	Interior	Also known as Bluejoint. Drought tolerant and long lived. Prefers well drained bottom lands and can withstand flooding. Tolerant of saline or alkaline sites.
Northern Wheatgrass <i>(Elymus lanceolatus)</i>	Rhizomatous	30 - 80 cm	Excellent	Interior	Also known as Thickspike. Drought tolerant but most common in moist grasslands. Long lived.
Bluejoint <i>(Calamagrostis canadensis)</i>	Rhizomatous	to 150 cm	Very Good	Coastal and Interior low to high elevations limited to moist sites.	Easy establishment. Adapted to wetland and riparian sites. Pinegrass <i>(Calamagrostis rubescens)</i> is a similar species however since it rarely forms seed heads commercial availability of seed is also rare.