

BC Native Grasses

NAME	GROWTH FORM	HEIGHT OF GROWTH	EROSION CONTROL	B.C. PROVENANCE	ECOLOGY AND NOTES
<i>Agrostis exarata</i> , Spike Bentgrass	Bunchgrass	30-120 cm	Excellent	Coastal and Interior (limited to moist sites in the Interior)	Occurs in a wide variety of habitats including forest openings, grasslands, wet meadows, freshwater and high tidal marshes, as well as along streams, rocky beaches, and lake margins. It is most common in moist open places.
<i>Agrostis scabra</i> , Hair Bentgrass	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.
<i>Bromus ciliatus</i> , Fringed Brome	Bunchgrass	70-120 cm	Very Good	Interior mid to subalpine	Moist forests, meadows and wetlands.
<i>Bromus marginatus</i> , Mountain Brome	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.
<i>Bromus sitchensis</i> , Alaska Brome	Bunchgrass	50 - 180 cm	Very Good	Primarily Coastal from sea level to subalpine elevations	Also known as Sitka Brome. Occurs in moist meadows and open forests. Also common on streambanks and beaches in rocky sandy soil.
<i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i> , Bluejoint	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.
<i>Danthonia californica</i> , California Oatgrass	Bunchgrass	30-100	Good	Coastal and Interior south half of Province. Low to Mid elevation.	Sandy and rocky ridges, Coastal meadows and shorelines.
<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i> , Tufted Hairgrass	Bunchgrass	20 - 120 cm	Good	Coastal and Interior	Common throughout most regions in moist meadows, on slough margins and in boggy areas.

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<i>Deschampsia elongata</i> , Slender Hairgrass	Bunchgrass	25 to 80 cm	Good	Coastal and Interior South half of Province	Open forests, stream banks, shorelines, clearings, meadows, grasslands, marshes and floodplains.
<i>Elymus glaucus</i> , Blue Wildrye	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.
<i>Elymus lanceolatus</i> , Northern Wheatgrass/ Streambank Wheatgrass	Rhizomatous	30 - 80 cm	Excellent	Interior	Also known as Thickspike. Drought tolerant but most common in moist grasslands. Long lived. Especially suited for stabilizing highly erosive silty to sandy soils. Tolerates periodic flooding.
<i>Elymus trachycaulus</i> , Slender Wheatgrass	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.
<i>Festuca idahoensis roemeri</i> , Roemer's Fescue	Bunchgrass	30-90 cm	Good	Coastal	Moderately dry to moist clearings and meadows. Requires good soil drainage.
<i>Festuca idahoensis</i> , Idaho Fescue	Bunchgrass	30 - 90 cm	Good	South Interior low to subalpine	Adapted to dry habitats primarily rocky slopes and clearings. Interior grasslands.
<i>Festuca occidentalis</i> , Western Fescue	Bunchgrass	25-70 cm	Good	Coastal and Interior low to mid elevations	Dry to moist open forests and clearings
<i>Festuca saximontana</i> , Rocky Mountain Fescue	Bunchgrass	25- 50 cm	Good	Interior mid to high elevation	Dry grasslands and open forests. Absent from moist sites.

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<i>Festuca scabrella</i> , Rough Fescue	Bunchgrass	60 - 100 cm	Good	South Interior low to mid elevations.	Dry to moist open forests and grasslands
<i>Hordeum brachyantherum</i> , Meadow Barley	Bunchgrass	40 - 100 cm	Good	Coastal grass most common in Maritime environments.	Tidal marshes and freshwater wetland. Rapid development makes this a valuable grass for soil stabilization.
<i>Koeleria cristata</i> , Prairie Junegrass	Bunchgrass	20 - 50 cm	Good	Interior low to high elevations	Prefers well drained grasslands and open forests. One of the most common grassland species.
<i>Pascopyrum smithii</i> , Western Wheatgrass	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.
<i>Poa alpina</i> , Alpine Bluegrass	Bunchgrass	5 - 30 cm	Good	Interior higher elevations	Open subalpine meadows and rocky slopes
<i>Poa palustris</i> , Fowl Bluegrass	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.
<i>Poa secunda</i> , Sandberg Bluegrass	Bunchgrass	15-120 cm	Poor	Southern Interior low to mid elevations	Common in low elevation grasslands, dry slopes and clay flats. Intolerant of high water tables or poor drainage.
<i>Pseudoroegneria spicata</i> , Bluebunch Wheatgrass	Bunchgrass	60 - 100 cm	Good	Interior low to mid elevations	Drought tolerant. Widely adapted interior grass. Common to grasslands and dry open forests.

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<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i> , Fireweed	1 to 3 m		N/A	Coastal and Interior, low to high elevation	Open areas and clearings.
<i>Lupinus arcticus</i> , Arctic Lupine	20 - 60 cm		N/A	Coastal and Interior, mid to high elevation	Meadows and open forest.
<i>Lupinus polyphyllus</i> , Large Leaved Lupine	1.5 m		N/A	Coastal and Interior, low to mid elevation	Moist meadows, streambanks and open forest.
<i>Balsamorhiza sagittata</i> , Arrowleaf Balsamroot	20 - 80 cm		N/A	Southern Interior, Low to sub alpine	Dry grasslands and open forest. Mid to high elevation.
<i>Linum lewisii</i> , Lewis Flax	10 - 60 cm		N/A	Interior, low elevation to sub alpine	Meadows and open forest.
<i>Gaillardia aristata</i> , Brown-eyed Susan	20 - 70 cm		N/A	Southern Interior, low to mid elevation	Dry grasslands.
<i>Grindelia stricta</i> , Gumweed	15 - 80 cm		N/A	South Coast, sea level	Beaches and roadsides.