

## KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- growth** Cool season annual, culms ascending to decumbent at base, 20-70 cm tall; thick but weak. Stems solitary to densely tufted.
- Inflorescence** Narrow, open panicle, 7-15 cm long with stout, erect branches +/- frequently with lower branches spreading, nodding; lower branches 1-2 cm long; few flowered.
- spikelet** Spikelets large, 3-4 cm long excluding awns, mostly with 5-7 florets; breaking above glumes and between florets.
- leaves** Sheath round, closed with spreading hairs. Blades flat, 10-20 cm long, 3-8 mm wide, usually with long, soft hairs.
- lemma** Slender, elongate, 2.5-3 cm long, glabrous to hairy with a broad hyaline margin; teeth at apex awn-like, most 3-4 mm long, 5-veined.

- glumes** Unequal, with broad transparent margins and apex, smooth; first glume 15-20 mm long, 1-3 veined; second glume 2.5-3cm long, 3-5 veined.
- ligule** Membranous, 3-5 mm long, rounded to acute, jagged. No auricle present.
- awn** Stout, 3-6 cm long, from between bifid tip.

Awn



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Ligule



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Elevation:  
1500-7000 feet

Ecotypes Invaded:  
Non-riparian wetlands.

## ECOLOGY & DISTRIBUTION

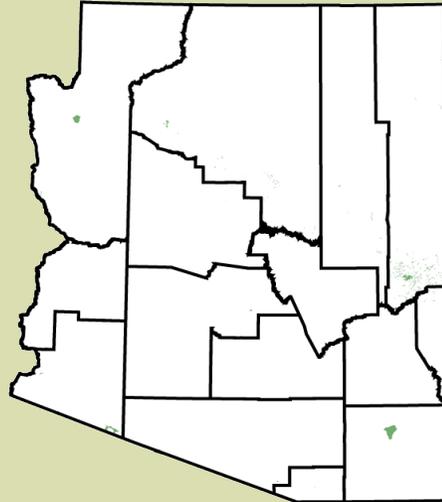
Germinates November-April, though typically in the spring, matures in May or June.

Common in open ground and waste areas, roadsides and along railroad corridors, field borders, disturbed areas, and is invasive on rangelands.

Prefers mediterranean climate; mild wet winters and hot dry summers. Grows in all soils but abundant on dry soil.

It has a tubular sheath on the seedling, distinguishing it from most other grass seedlings. Soft hairs cover the blades and sheaths. Open panicles resemble oats.

## SUITABLE HABITAT



Suitable habitat based on the Arizona Wildlands Invasive Plant Working Group (AZ-WIPWG) assessment. Green = suitable habitat; White = unsuitable habitat; Gray = unknown. Based on Brown, Lowe & Pase (1980) vegetation communities.

Seedling: Note tubular sheath

