



BULBOUS BLUEGRASS

BOTANICAL NAME: *Poa bulbosa*

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE? Bulbous bluegrass is a short-lived perennial cool-season grass. This grass develops bulbs at the base of the plant which are normally dormant from mid-May through early October when leaves will begin to

emerge. By early March, the plant is usually about 3 inches tall. Fields of mature bulbous bluegrass have a dark purple cast.

WHERE DOES IT LIKE TO GROW? Bulbous bluegrass is a weedy plant in pastures, grain fields and along roadsides. It prefers shallow soils that are moist during the winter and early spring.

HOW DOES THIS PLANT MULTIPLY? Bulbous blue grass is unique because it does not produce true seeds. It grows from bulbs that develop at the base of the plant. These bulbs multiply, sending new bulbs out to the side of the plant. The flowers of bulbous bluegrass produce dark purple bulbils rather than seed. After a dormant period, these bulbils will produce new plants.



WHY IS THIS PLANT A THREAT? Bulbous bluegrass frequently moves into fields from adjacent road shoulders, fence lines, and other poorly vegetated areas. It can, eventually, become the dominate plant in poorly maintained soils leaving no desirable forage for livestock and wildlife.

HOW CAN THIS PLANT BE CONTROLLED? Bulbous bluegrass begins growing much earlier in the spring than most other grasses. It completes its growth cycle in the spring and matures ahead of other grasses. Controlling bulbous bluegrass and other weeds along roadsides and fence lines will help them from spreading onto your property. This weedy grass should be one of the first things treated as soon as weather and temperature allow in the spring.



NON-CHEMICAL CONTROL:

- Prevent infestations
- Wildlife and livestock will graze this plant in early spring until it flowers. Early, heavy grazing can be used as a tool to reduce the production and spread of bulbous bluegrass.
- Tilling the ground in the spring will disrupt the bulbil cycle of this plant.

CHEMICAL CONTROL:

- There are several herbicides available to control bulbous bluegrass. Contact the Noxious Weed Control office to learn which products will work best for you. Always read and follow label directions.

Want more information? Contact:

Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control
10905 N. Ramsey Road
Hayden, ID 83835

208-446-1290 / TTY 208-446-2145

kcnoxiousweeds@kcgov.us or www.kcweeds.com

Kootenai County does not discriminate against individuals or groups on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment in, its public meetings, programs, or activities. Requests for assistance or accommodations can be arranged by contacting the Noxious Weed Control Department at (208) 446-1290 or County Administration Office TTY (208)446-2145 with 3 days advance notice.