



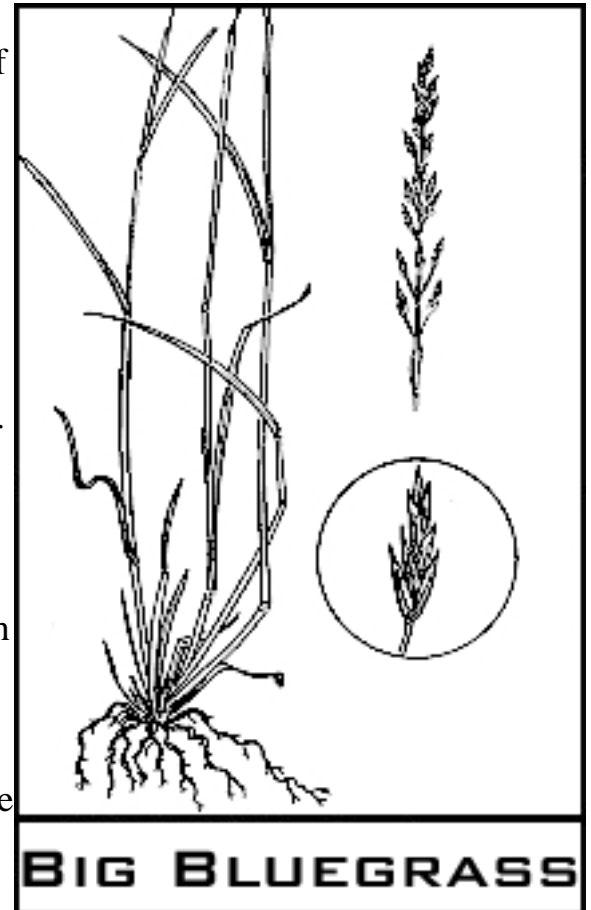
Bluegrasses

BIG BLUEGRASSES(*Poa ampla*) is one of several native bluegrasses found throughout the continental climatic areas of the West. Found on medium textured soils at elevations of 2,000 to 6,000 feet, **Big Bluegrass** is a medium-sized, cool-season bunchgrass. It is a long-lived perennial, that begins growth in the early spring and reaches maturation in early summer unless moisture is sufficient to keep it green all summer. In this respect it is the most persistent of all the cool-season grasses.

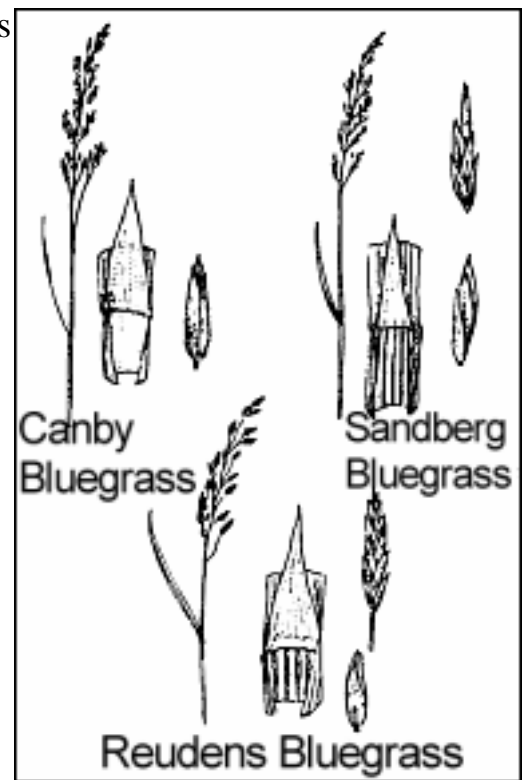
SHERMAN BIG BLUEGRASS is the only released cultivar of Big Bluegrass. It is used extensively in Oregon, Washington, and in parts of Idaho.

Big Bluegrass can be used in range seeding mixtures on adapted sites. It makes good nutritious hay that compares with Smooth Brome and Timothy in palatability. Early spring grazing by cattle or sheep is one of the primary uses of **Big Bluegrass**. In adapted areas, there is no other grass that provides an equal volume of early spring forage. Upland game birds, especially pheasants, choose fields for nesting sites because of early spring growth; the basal leaves provide good shade. **Big Bluegrass** has been successfully used for reseeding burned over forest lands. It has a remarkable ability to produce roots which effectively suppress weed growth.

CANBY BLUEGRASS(*Poa canbyi*) is a native to the Great Plains and Intermountain region of the West. It is a long-lived perennial, cool-season bunchgrass. Growing to 24 inches in height, Canby demonstrates more vigor, later maturity, and greater forage production than some bluegrasses. It is one of the first species to green up for early spring grazing. Grazed by all classes of livestock, Canby matures in June, and is grazed again during regrowth in the fall. Its production is low but has high forage quality early in the season. Canby can be used as a temporary cover crop on idle cropland. As an understory grass, it can fill in spaces between larger bunchgrasses in areas low in rainfall. It has an extensive but fairly shallow root system that withstands trampling and contributes ground cover for erosion control. Canby occurs in the 10 to 25 inch precipitation zone, below timberline. A cultivar, Canbar was released that shows impressive ability to control competitive annual weeds and grasses. It grows well on sites receiving short-season moisture; when available moisture is gone, the plant goes dormant, enabling Canbar to survive on dry, shallow, rocky sites.



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SANDBERG BLUEGRASS (*Poa secunda*), also known as "little bluegrass", is a cool-season bunchgrass common to the Western United States. It reaches only 8 to 16 inches in height, growing in small dense tufts. **Sandberg** demonstrates good palatability; however, it matures early and virtually disappears during the summer months.

Sandberg is a pioneer species, readily invading disturbed areas. Because of its small size, it will seldom dominate a site. The plant is, however, quite drought tolerant and will do well in reclamation areas with dry and rocky soils. It can grow on soils that are weakly alkaline, acidic, or saline, at elevations of 1,000 to 12,000 feet. **Sandberg** is not tolerant of prolonged flooding nor to a high water table, but can withstand moderate spring flooding. It tolerates cold and is winter hardy.

REUBENS CANADA BLUEGRASS (*Poa compressa*) was named for Reuben, a Nez Perce Indian warrior of the Northwest. It is a strong native prairie grass which dominated the prairie areas where the Nez Perce Indians hunted and their ponies grazed. It evolved from the grasses that survived prairie fires and drought year after year. **Reubens Canada Bluegrass** is an engineer's answer for revegetating barren areas such as: Telephone power line and pipeline rights-of-way; ski slopes; sanitary landfills, back-filled quarries and stripmines; burned areas; mine tailings, earthen dams and dikes; and roadway cuts. **Reubens** seed is larger, germinates faster, forms an unusually dense sod due to its aggressive rhizome growth and tiller development. **Reubens** persists in extremely dry, barren soils year after year and regrows quickly after damage from prairie or forest fires. It is best adapted to all cool-season areas of Canada and the United States.



**Range of Bluegrasses
(Site Specific Grasses)**

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