

Fact Sheet

SHARP BROS. SEED CO.



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Buffalograss

Buffalograss is a native perennial, warm-season sod-forming short grass which reproduces by seed and surface runners or stolons. It seldom grows more than five inches tall. It is readily eaten by all classes of livestock except when dormant during dry periods. It cures well and furnishes good winter grazing in dry areas. **Buffalograss** protects itself from misuse by growing close to the ground. Cattlemen need to consider the relatively low yield of **Buffalograss**. However, it is considered by some experts in the area of grass management to be the most palatable and nutritious of all grasses.

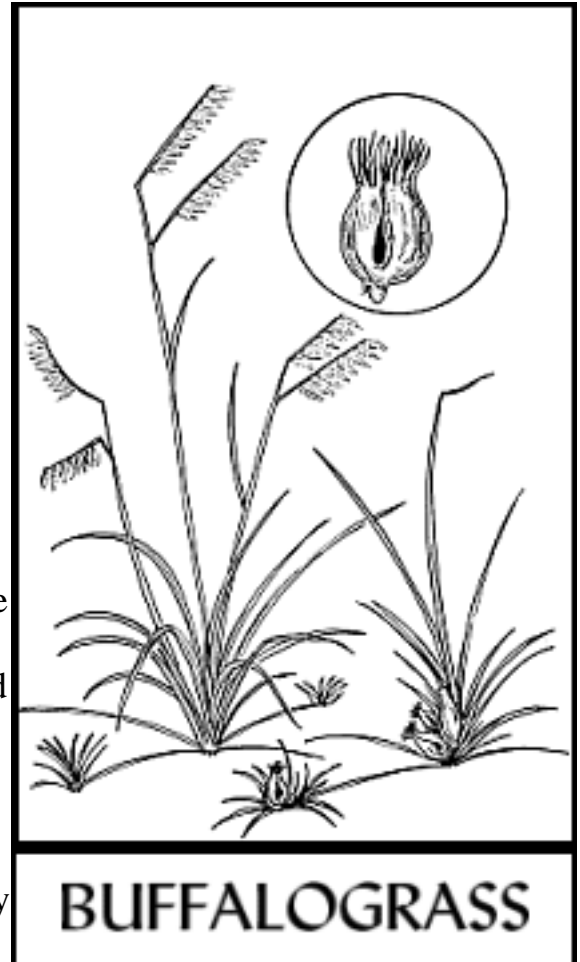
USES:

The demands for a durable, fast-growing lawn grass that would survive even where irrigation is not available has made **Buffalograss** very popular. The thick root system does well on the heavier soils, but it is not very shade tolerant. Close and frequent mowing helps prevent encroachment by other un-wanted species, and encourages the growth of a dense, matted turf. When **Buffalograss** is planted in lawns it is often accompanied by Blue Grama Grass. Because of its excellent ground covering ability with aggressive spreading under heavy use, Buffalo-grass is suited for erosion control on range areas.

It is relatively easy to establish and in some instances, it is considered a valuable wildlife forage. As a pasturegrass, **Buffalograss** is usually planted with another compatible species such as Blue Grama, Side-Oats Grama, or Western Wheatgrass. Areas in which **Buffalograss** is planted exclusively are: golf courses, parks, athletic fields, cemeteries and highway development spaces. April and May are the best months to plant, always waiting until frost danger is past. If irrigation is possible, seeds may be planted as late July 15.

MANAGEMENT:

The seed should be planted in a clean, firm seed bed or in a firm, seed-free stubble. A chemical program to control broad leaf weeds and cool-season grasses may be used until the seedlings are well established.



VARIETIES:

Comanche is a variety developed from several strains of Texoka. It shows even more growth, but produces less seeds. It retains the rich color and vigor of Texoka.

Sharp's Improved is treated by a special process to lower the dormancy or hard seed of the **Buffalograss**. Freshly harvested seed is usually 60-80% dormant and through the treatment process, this percentage is lowered to 15-25%. All seeds are conditioned and tested for purity. A high ratio of female to male plants is assured, thus allowing for a significant increase of both seed and forage production in a short time. Lawns of treated **Buffalograss** establish quickly, especially when irrigation is used to supplement summer rainfall.

Texoka was developed at the Oklahoma Experiment Station from work directed by the Agriculture Research Center. Texoka has proven to be dependable and vigorous growing.

