



Sand Lovegrass

SAND LOVEGRASS is a tall, warm-season bunch grass of the Southern Plains, Central Great Plains, and the southern part of the Northern Great Plains. It grows well on a wide range of soils, but is most common on soils with sand or sandy-loam textures. It is usually seeded in mixtures with other warm-season species such as bluestems and grama grasses. **Sand Lovegrass** is palatable and nutritious to all livestock and wildlife, and it is often selectively grazed by livestock.

FACTS ABOUT SAND LOVEGRASS:

- **Sand Lovegrass starts growth as much as 2 weeks earlier than other warm season grasses, and remains green into the fall.**
- **It reproduces by seed and tillers, some-times forming roofs from nodes of basal stems.**
- **Sand Lovegrass cures well, thus producing a high quality hay for all classes of livestock. Some varieties are especially winter hardy and long-lived.**
- **Mature Sand Lovegrass plants have a reddish-brown color, making it a grass sometimes selected for landscaping.**
- **Sand Lovegrass demonstrates good drought, poor salt, and poor high water tolerances.**
- **Because of its high palatability, Sand Lovegrass frequently suffers from overuse.**



VARIETIES:

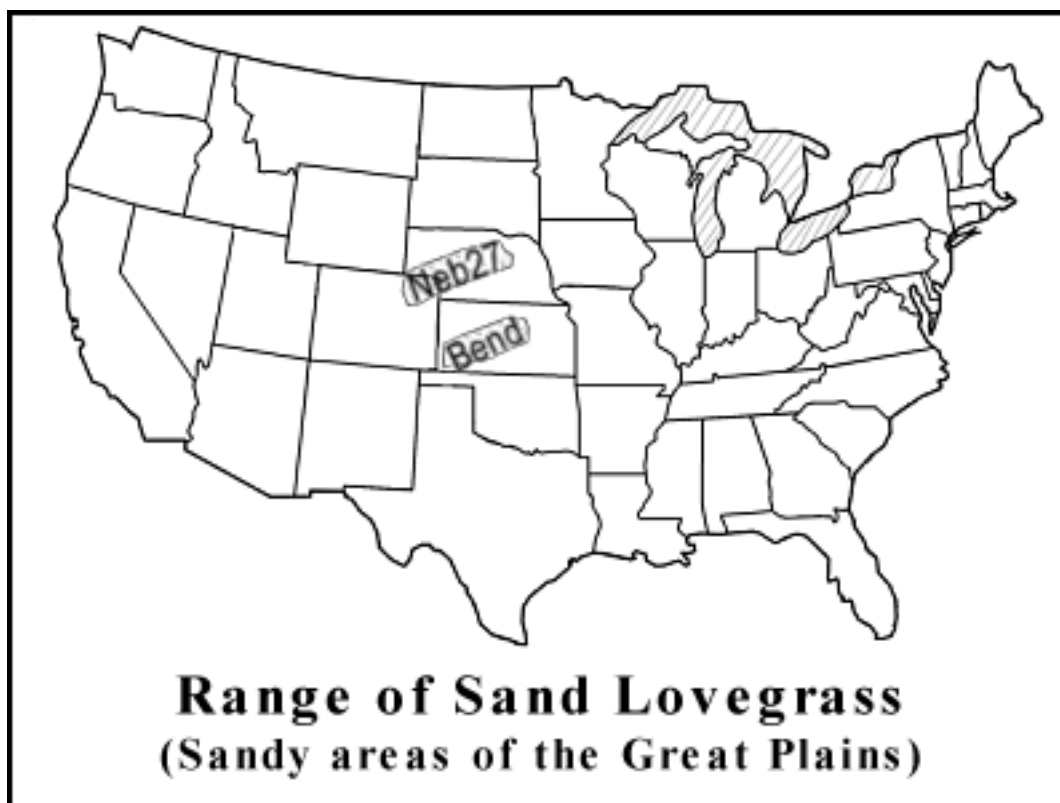
Nebraska 27 is a winter-hardy, relatively long-lived strain of **Sand Lovegrass**, which is native to the Nebraska sandhills. It is a prolific seed producer. Best germination is achieved when seed has been stored until the second spring following harvest. It is well-adapted to a wide range of soil types, and produces a highly, palatable nutritious forage.

Grazing tests at Woodward Oklahoma Experiment Station show 105 pounds of beef per acre produced from pure stands. Seed can be harvested with a combine. Dry-land row plantings produce about 100 pounds per acre. Irrigated plantings produce 200 to 400 pounds per acre.

Bend is a tall, leafy perennial bunchgrass adapted to sandy land in Kansas and adjoining areas of Oklahoma. It establishes well and is relatively free of disease. Bend is used in grass seeding mixtures for pastures, surface stabilization, and as a low maintenance environmental planting on sandy soils. It grows in the ten central Great Plains states, primarily from Illinois westward to Colorado and southward to Texas.

ESTABLISHMENT / MANAGEMENT

Proper ground preparation is one of the most important considerations when native grasses are being established. The seed bed should be firm but not solid; cultivation to kill the roots of cool-season grasses is essential. Planting can be done by either drilling or broadcasting, and the seed should be covered with no more than one fourth inch of soil. Avoid planting the seed too deep. rest the soil for deficiencies and apply needed phosphorus, potassium or lime prior to seeding. No additional fertilization is required after the stand has been established. Once the stand is well established, regulate the grazing patterns to avoid over-grazing. This should be of particular note toward the end of the growing season as grass grazed too closely weakens the root structure which holds the food supply through winter. Competing woody shrubs, undesirable weeds and extensive mulch build-up can be managed by a controlled burn done in the late winter before the vegetation has begun its spring growth. Always check with an expert in grass management, such as our personnel at SHARP BROS. SEED CO. before attempting such a burn for advice as to the proper technique to be used. Our personnel are trained to listen to your needs. help develop your program for planting and suggest suitable varieties for your location. With planning and preparation, your stand of **Sand Lovegrass** will supply you with a depend-able, warm-season forage crop for years to come.



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