

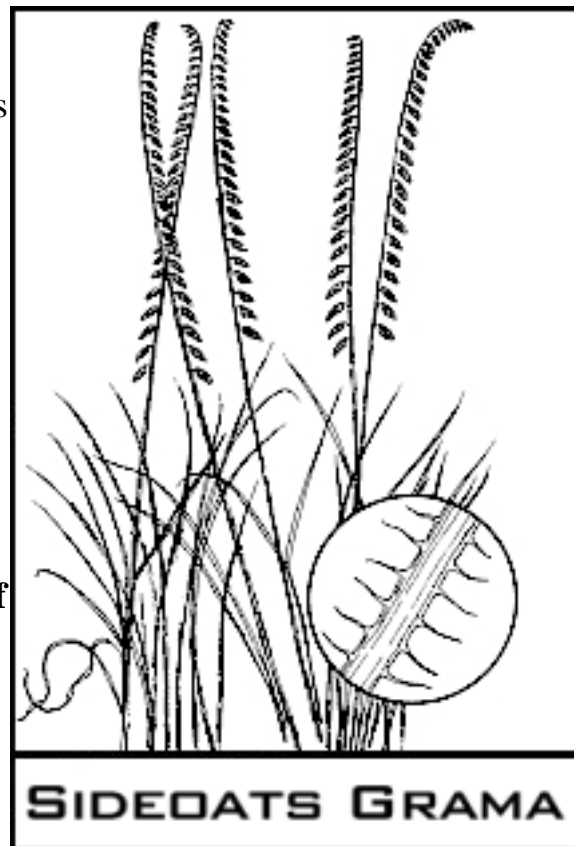


Side-Oats Grama

SIDE-OATS GRAMA is a native, warm-season, bunch forming or sod forming perennial grass. Distributed over much of the Midwest and Great Plains, it is an important grass of the prairie and plains states. It grows on well-drained uplands, ridges and rocky areas, but also may be found on soils ranging from deep to shallow. **Side-Oats Grama** does not do well in soils that are too wet or too sandy. It grows in association with Bluestems, and develops thick, dense vegetation.

FACTS ABOUT SIDE-OATS GRAMA:

- **Side-Oats Grama is quick to establish.**
- **Side-Oats Grama is highly palatable, highly nutritious grass, that is readily eaten by all classes of livestock.**
- **Seeds and seedheads serve as food for small mammals and songbirds.**
- **Side-Oats Grama is used for seeding abandoned or eroding fields.**
- **Side-Oats Grama provides good soil erosion control.**
- **Side-Oats Grama is a good seed producer.**
- **Side-Oats Grama has a moderate tolerance of spring flooding and shade.**



VARIETIES:

Butte is a winter hardy, long lived, relatively early maturing variety. Its best growth is during the long days of summer and the seeds mature as early as mid-August.

El Reno produces strong leafy plants that are excellent for forage. It grows rapidly and is noted for its disease resistance and winter hardiness.

Haskell is adapted to most of Texas. It reproduces by rhizomes as well as seed, is drought tolerant, shows good vigor, and is resistant to seed shattering. Field planting data showed Haskell to be the best and most consistent forage producing variety of **Side-Oats Grama** for central and southern Texas. Haskell is limited only by moisture, requiring at least 18" annually.

Kildeer is recommended for use in pasture and range seedings in the Northern Great Plains. It was released by the SCS in Bismarck, N.D, and it grows best on well-drained uplands, shallow ridges and rocky areas of varying soil types.

Niner is one of the most important varieties of **Side-Oats Grama** of the southwestern U.S. due to its high palatability and vigorous growth. It is recommended for use in seed mixes with other species for range reseeding, roadside plantings or mined-land reclamation. Best performance comes on medium to heavy textured soils.

Pierre is another variety whose growth is vigorous, leafy and relatively disease free. It grows well on poor soil and in areas of low annual precipitation. This variety grows well in South Dakota and adjoining states.

Premier is an upright, leafy type of **Side-Oats Grama**. It shows considerable drought tolerance and good forage production. It is recommended for planting in west-central Texas.

Trailway is a winter hardy, long-lived, late maturing variety. It requires most of a growing season to produce mature seeds and may fail to produce seed crops in regions with shorter seasons. It is recommended for upland planting in eastern and southern Nebraska.

Vaughn plants are recognized by an upright leaf structure and its bunch-type growth pattern. It is easily established, has good seedling vigor, and is highly drought tolerant. Vaughn is used in eastern Colorado and New Mexico.

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. Test 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 **Side-Oats Grama** will supply you with a dependable, warm-season forage crop for years to come.

Planting time:

1) Preferred in the spring before June 30

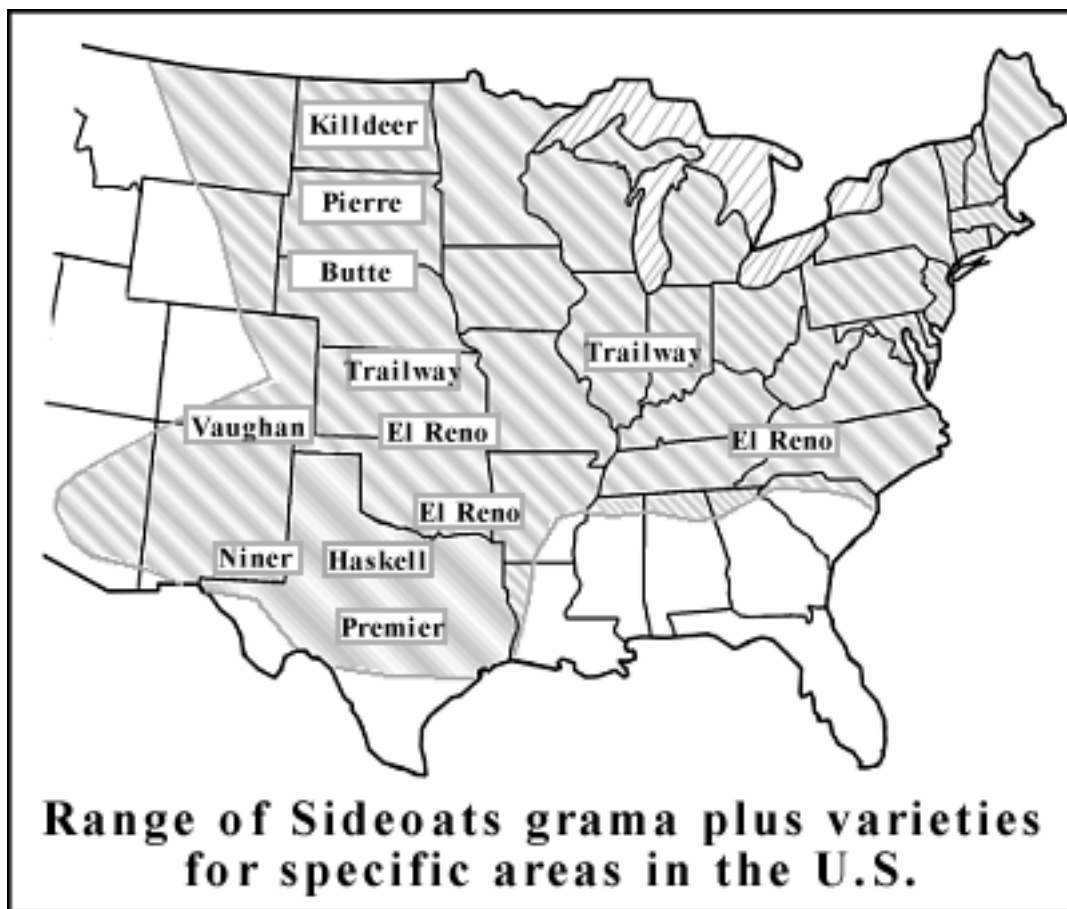
2) Dormant planting in December through February

Planting rate:

6-8 PLS pounds per acre in pure stand. In a mixture it should represent 10-30% of the seeds used, dependent on geographic location.

Method of Seeding:

Must be done with a Rangeland or chaffy seed planter.



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