

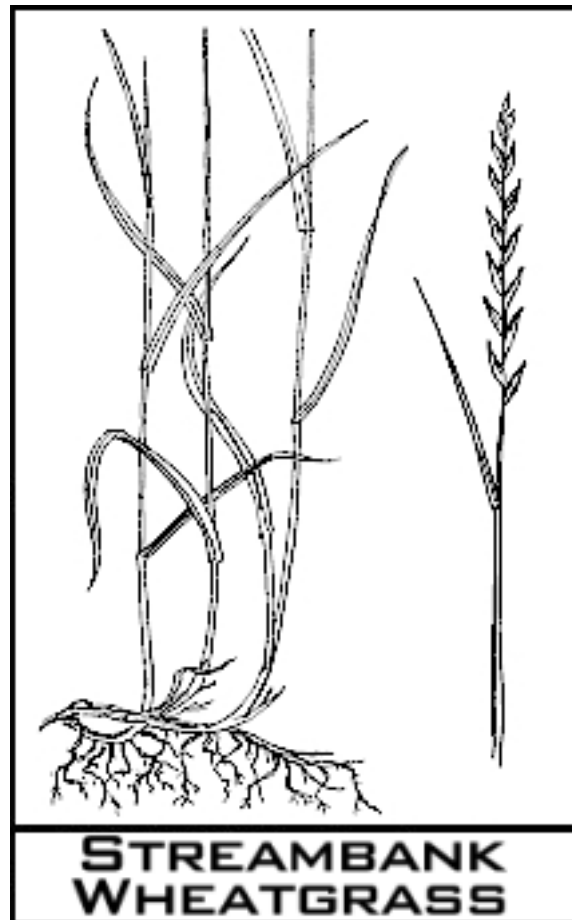


Streambank Wheatgrass

STREAMBANK WHEATGRASS (*Agropyron riparium*) is a native, low-growing, sod-forming, perennial native wheatgrass. The name, however, does not accurately identify the qualities of the grass - it is extremely drought tolerant and the seed germinates quickly even when rainfall is scanty. It has strong rhizomes that enables the grass to spread rapidly to form a good ground cover. At elevations less than 3,500 feet, minimum yearly precipitation is 12 inches; above this elevation the grass only requires 9 inches of precipitation.

FACTS ABOUT STREAMBANK WHEATGRASS:

- **Streambank Wheatgrass has special uses in soil and water conservation work. On irrigated soils, it is used for cover on the banks of canals, laterals, and farm ditches.**
- **Once established, it provides an excellent barrier to weed invasion.**
- **Under dryland conditions it makes a permanent lawn for homes and playgrounds and when established, requires infrequent watering and minimum maintenance.**
- **Under dryland conditions the main use of Streambank Wheatgrass is for cover for highway shoulders, cuts and fills, borrow pits and median separators.**
- **Few seeds are produced from solid stands so there is no danger of the grass spreading to irrigated cropland.**
- **Streambank Wheatgrass is used as a cover crop in windbreaks and orchards.**



VARIETY:

Sodar was selected primarily for erosion control. Its low growth form, vigorous sod, and low maintenance requirements make it an ideal plant for ground cover and erosion control. Often called "one bite" or "no eatem", Sodar is not readily eaten by livestock and its low forage yield plus a relatively long green period provides little fire hazard. Once established it provides an effective barrier to weed invasion. Sodar establishes easily from seed and does not become a weed. Sodar is crowded out if the site is too wet.

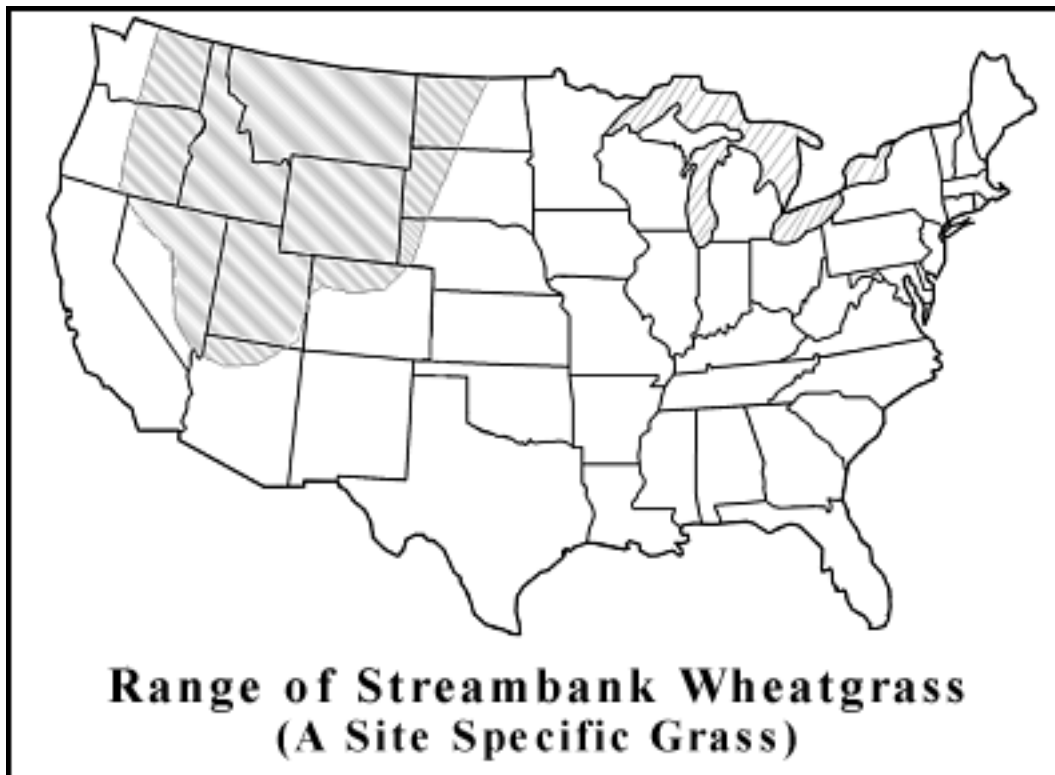
ESTABLISHMENT / MANAGEMENT

Plant only in clean, firm and moist seedbeds. Irrigate as needed to insure establishment. Seeding should be in pure stands in late fall where annual precipitation averages less than 12 inches. On soils subject to crusting or heaving, seedings made in early spring in higher rain tall areas have been most successful. Broadcast seedings have not been consistently successful. The deep-furrow drill has been most effective under arid conditions.

Seeding rates of 6 to 8 lbs./acre have been very adequate for drill seedings. The rate should be doubled for broadcast seedings. Soil adaptation ranges from shallow to deep, moderately coarse to fine textured, well to moderately well-drained, and weakly acidic to moderately saline-alkali. It is not tolerant of wet or poorly drained soils.

Control weeds by mowing prior to bloom stage, by spraying, or by cultivation. Leave at least 4 inches of stubble to maintain plant vigor. Read instructions for herbicide use carefully.

Apply nitrogen to maintain plant vigor at a rate of 20 to 30 lbs./acre. Nitrogen is normally not required until the stand is mature.



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