

Caucasian Bluestem

Bothriochloa caucasica



Caucasian bluestem has finer leaves and is lower growing than the native warm-season grasses. It has a pale green color similar to orchardgrass.

Description

Leafy, warm-season, perennial bunchgrass. Deep rooted and drought tolerant with fine stems. Grows 2 to 4 feet tall.

Uses

Pasture and hay.

Advantages

More uniform growth rates over summer season, more tolerant of close grazing than native warm-season grasses. Multiple cuttings possible.

Disadvantages

Fluffy seed that is hard to handle, slow to establish. Can become a weed in crop fields. No cover value for wildlife. Quality and animal acceptance declines rapidly with maturity compared to big bluestem and indiagrass.

Seeding

Rate: 2-4 lb/a PLS*

Depth: ¼-½ in

Date: Apr 15-Jun 1

Harvest

First harvest: Jun 15-Jul 15

Annual yield: 3-5 tons dry matter/a



*See page 8 for definition of PLS.