

Grass Species Reference Guide

Version 1.1 6/23/2021

Use with *Grasses, Sedges, Rushes: an Identification Guide* by Lauren Brown and Ted Elliman, with original drawings by Lauren Brown (2020) Yale University Press. Species without page numbers are not found in Brown and Elliman. The species listed in boxes are those that are most abundant in Iowa and the tallgrass prairie. Shade tolerant grasses are listed at the very end, and are exclusively cool-season species.

To use this guide:

1. Identify if it is the warm season or the cool season, refer to the corresponding column
2. Identify your location and refer to the corresponding row

Note: possible species at each location include all species listed for that location AND those listed in the categories above it (example: possible species found at CPR or roadsides include those listed in “found in plantings” and “prominent everywhere”)

3. Keep in mind that there are no hard and fast rules, and that this is a first draft!

Cool-season

Warm-season

<p><u>Prominent everywhere</u> <i>Agrostis gigantea</i> - pg. 160 <i>Bromus inermis</i> - pg. 196 <i>Elymus repens</i> - pg. 93 <i>Hordeum jubatum</i> - pg. 72 <i>Lolium perenne</i> - pg. 94 <i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> - pg. 180 <i>Phragmites australis</i> - pg. 142 <i>Poa compressa</i> - pg. 197 <i>Poa pratensis</i> - pg. 198</p>	<p><u>Prominent everywhere</u> <i>Digitaria ischaemum</i> - pg. 109 <i>Digitaria sanguinalis</i> - pg. 109 <i>Echinochloa crusgalli</i> - pg. 190 <i>Eleusine indica</i> - pg. 111 <i>Eriochloa villosa</i> <i>Miscanthus sacchariflorus</i> <i>Panicum capillare</i> - pg. 166 <i>Panicum dichotomiflorum</i> - pg. 167 <i>Setaria faberi</i> - pg. 70 <i>Setaria verticillata</i> <i>Setaria viridis</i> - pg. 71</p>
<p><u>Found in plantings (CRP, roadsides, pastures)</u> <i>Avena sativa</i> - pg. 210 <i>Dactylis glomerata</i> - pg. 179 <i>Elymus canadensis</i> - pg. 79 <i>Elymus virginicus</i> - pg. 80 <i>Festuca rubra</i> - pg. 177 <i>Glyceria striata</i> - pg. 146 <i>Lolium multiflorum</i> - pg. 94 <i>Phleum pratense</i> - pg. 85 <i>Schedonorus pratensis</i> - pg. 202</p>	<p><u>Found in plantings (CRP, roadsides, pastures)</u> <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> - pg. 112 <i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i> - pg. 145 <i>Leersia oryzoides</i> - pg. 151 <i>Panicum virgatum</i> - pg. 164 <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> - pg. 136 <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> - pg. 182 <i>Sporobolus compositus</i> - pg. 185 <i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i> - pg. 192</p>



Exclusive to remnant prairies

Bromus kalmii
Calamagrostis canadensis - pg. 208
Dichanthelium leibergii
Dichanthelium oligosanthes
Hesperostipa spartea
Koeleria macrantha - pg. 83

Exclusive to remnant prairies

Bouteloua hirsuta
Eragrostis spectabilis - pg. 172
Muhlenbergia racemosa
Paspalum setaceum - pg. 95
Spartina pectinata - pg. 130

Cool Season

Remnant forest

- *Brachyelytrum erectum* - pg. 144
- *Bromus pubescens* - pg. 155
- *Cinna arundinacea* - pg. 207
- *Diarrhena obovata*
- *Dichanthelium latifolium* - pg. 170
- *Elymus hystrix* - pg. 81
- *Elymus villosus*
- *Festuca subverticillata*

Not listed

- *Bromopsis biebersteinii*
- *Bromus sitchensis*
- *Festuca pratensis* (*Schedonorus pratensis*) x *Lolium perenne* - pg. 202