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EC71-179 Certified Grass Varieties for Nebraska

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EC 71-179

Certified Grass Varieties for Nebraska

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Why Use Certified Seed?

Grasses important to Nebraska Agriculture have been improved and selected for high production, disease resistance, and persistence. Grass breeding and improvement programs have produced varieties of these grasses which have performed significantly better than natural wild strains or seed introduced from other regions. Foundation seed of the recommended varieties has been made available to seed growers.

Certified Seed produced under the supervision of

an official Crop Improvement Association assures you of the origin and genetic purity of a variety. Through use of Certified Seed such identity of variety can be verified. Farmers and ranchers cannot afford to gamble with grass seed of questionable or unknown origin and performance.

Use Recommended Varieties

This circular provides you a list of grasses with recommendations for planting in specific areas. Each area

Extension Service
University of Nebraska College of Agriculture
cooperating with the
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and the
College of Home Economics
E. F. Frolik, Dean J. L. Adams, Director

Varieties of Warm-Season Grasses for Use in Major Land Resource Areas of Nebraska¹

Kind of grass and certified variety	Panhandle 60, 64, 67, 72	Sandhills 65	North Central 63, 66	Southwest 72, 73	Central 71	South Central 73, 75	Northeast 102, 107N	Southeast 75, 106, 107S
Big and Sand bluestems								
Champ	S B I	H S B I	H S B I	S B I	H S B I	...	H S B	...
Garden Co.	S	S	S	S	S	...	...	...
Pawnee	...	...	...	I	H S B I	H S B I	H S B I	H S B I
Kaw	...	...	...	I	B I	H S B I	...	H S B I
Little bluestem								
Blaze	...	S B	...	S B	S B	H S B	H S B	H S B
Aldous	...	...	...	...	...	H S B	...	H S B
Indiangrass								
Holt	S B I W H S B I W H S B I W	S B I W H S B I W H S B I W	S B I W H S B I W H S B I W	S B I W H S B I W H S B I W	S B I W H S B I W H S B I W	...	H S B I W	...
Nebraska 54	...	...	...	I W	S B I W H S B I W H S B I W H S B I W	S B I W H S B I W H S B I W H S B I W	S B I W H S B I W H S B I W	S B I W H S B I W H S B I W
Oto	...	...	...	I W	S B I W H S B I W H S B I W H S B I W	S B I W H S B I W H S B I W H S B I W	S B I W H S B I W H S B I W	S B I W H S B I W H S B I W
Sand lovegrass								
Nebraska 27	S B I	H S B I	S B I	S B I	H S B I	H S B I	H S B I	H S B I
Side-oats grama								
Butte	H B I	H B I	H B I	H B I	H B I	...	H S	...
Trailway	...	...	...	B I	H B I	H S B I	...	H S B I
Switchgrass								
Nebraska 28	S B I W H S B I W	S B I W	S B I W	S B I W H S B I W	S B I W H S B I W	...	H S B I W	...
Pathfinder	...	H S B I W	...	S B I W H S B I W	S B I W H S B I W	H S B I W	H S B I W	H S B I W

¹ Land resource areas are shown by number and identified by the accompanying map and description.

Select varieties for use in each region and resource area as suggested by the following:

H = Hardlands: the finer-textured upland or terrace soils in an area.

S = Sandy soils: the coarser-textured soils of an area.

B = Bottomlands: lowlands, with relatively favorable moisture conditions, that do not remain excessively wet for long periods.

I = Irrigated lands.

W = Wet lands: poorly drained soils which have a high water table or are subject to frequent flooding.

A = Alkali or salty soils.

differs in climate and soil. Variety tests conducted by the Outstate Testing program have been reviewed in making these recommendations. The purpose of this list is to show the availability of superior varieties of grasses adapted to the areas designated.

A variety can be used in pure seedings or mixtures. Choosing of grass varieties for use should be based on seasonal needs of livestock as well as requirements of adaptation to the soil and climate of your farm or ranch.

When and Where To Use Warm-Season Grasses To Complement Cool-Season Grasses

Research has demonstrated the need for both cool-season and warm-season pastures for maximum grazing use in Nebraska. Cool-season grasses grow during the cool season of spring and early summer. During this period of rapid growth most all of the water and nitrogen supply may be utilized. Rapid regrowth occurs in late summer and early fall when rains and cool temperatures return.

Warm-season grasses grow rapidly during the warm summer months when they make efficient use of the

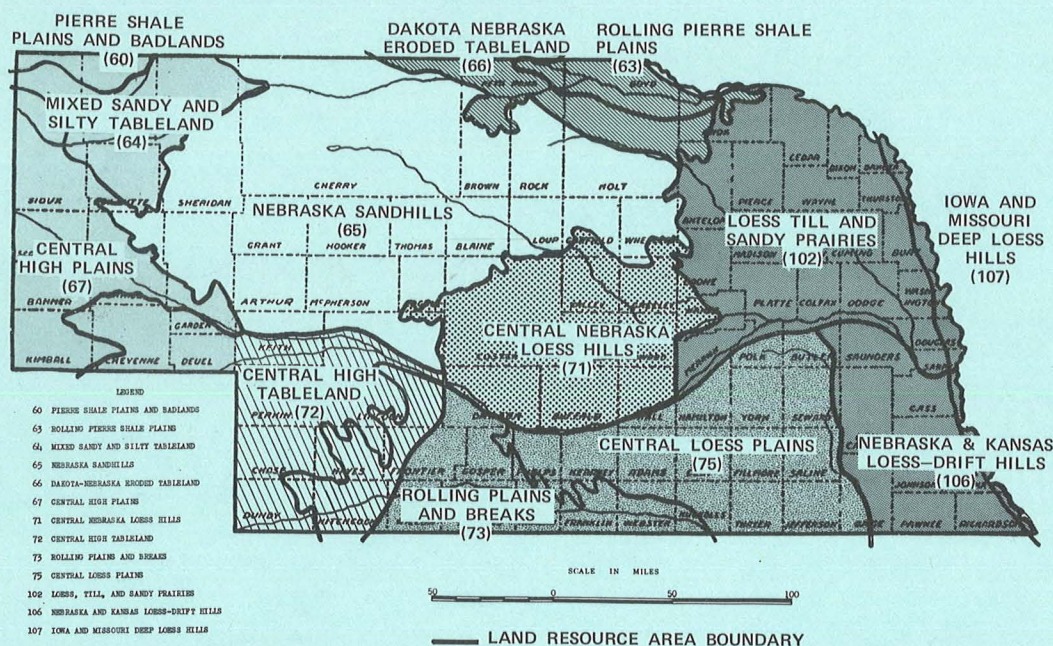
available water and nitrogen. Maximum production of high quality forage for grazing occurs during the period when the cool-season grasses are maturing and providing only low quality pasture.

Use each grass as it becomes most productive. Successful use of cool-season and warm-season grasses is accomplished through proper management. Acreages of well fertilized cool-season grasses complement acreages of warm-season range and pastures. Don't start grazing before the grass is ready. Remove your cattle before stands are weakened. In emergency cases, warm-season annuals can be used but the annuals are not substitutes for highly productive warm-season perennials.

For further information consult your County Extension Agent and/or local SCS Technicians. Additional information can be found in these publications:

- CC 165 How to Establish New Pastures
- EC 68-177 Selecting a Crop for Replanting
- CC 205 Using Alfalfa for Pasture
- CC 170 Irrigated Pastures for Nebraska
- EC 70-130 Chemicals that Control Weeds
- Annual Directory of Nebraska Certified Seed

MAJOR LAND RESOURCE AREAS FOR NEBRASKA



Varieties of Cool-Season Grasses for Use in Major Land Resource Areas of Nebraska¹

Kind of grass and certified variety	Panhandle 60, 64, 67, 72	Sandhills 65	North Central 63, 66	Southwest 72, 73	Central 71	South Central 73, 75	Eastern 102, 106, 107
Smooth Bromeass							
Lincoln	I	BI	BI	BI	HSBI	HSBI	HSBI
Lancaster	...	...	...	...	HSBI	HSBI	HSBI
Orchardgrass							
Sterling	I	I	I	I	I	BI	HSBI
Tall Fescue							
Alta, Ky 31	I	IW	IW	IW	IW	IW	HBIW
Reed Canarygrass							
Ioreed	IW	IW	IW	IW	IW	IW	HBIW
Crested Wheatgrass							
Nordan	HB	HB	HB	HB	...	...	...
Russian Wildrye							
Vinall	HBI	HB	HB	HB	...	...	...
Intermediate Wheatgrass							
Nebraska 50	HSBI	HBI	HSBI	HSBI	HSBI	HSBI	HSBI
Slate	HSBI	HBI	HSBI	HSBI	HSBI	HSBI	HSBI
Tall Wheatgrass							
Nebraska 98526	BIWA	BIWA	BIWA	BIWA	BIWA	BIWA	BIWA

¹ Land resource areas are shown by number and identified by the accompanying map and description.

Select varieties for use in each region and resource area as suggested by the following:

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