MULTIFLOWER FALSE RHODES GRASS
Chloris pluriflora (Fourn.)
W.D. Clayton
Plant Symbol = CHPL2

Contributed By: USDA NRCS National Plant Data Center

Description
Grass Family (Poaceae). The multiflower false rhodes grass is a native, warm-seasoned, erect, tufted perennial. The height ranges from 1 to 2 feet. The leaf blade is wide and flat with a strong midrib. The leaf sheath is open and shorter than the internodes. The ligule has a few hairs. The stem has branches at the lower nodes with enlarged nodes. The seedhead has several spikes, 2 to 3 inches long. It is looser and less feathery than two-flower trichloris (Chloris crinita). The spiklets are 3 to 5 flowered, usually 4-flowered.

Distribution: For current distribution, please consult the Plant Profile page for this species on the PLANTS Web site.

Management
This grass decreases on ranges grazed throughout the summer. Periodic grazing deferments of 60 to 70 days throughout the year, especially during spring and summer, are needed to maintain plant vigor.

Establishment
Growth starts in the late spring and it grows throughout summer, if moisture is available. It produces seed several times in one season and has a shallow, fibrous root system. The high ratio of seed stalks to leaves and the unpalatable stems help protect the plant from close grazing. Growing points are 3 to 4 inches above ground. It is best adapted to sandy loam soils but grows on heavier soils.

Cultivars, Improved and Selected Materials (and area of origin)
Please contact your local NRCS Field Office.

Reference

Prepared By & Species Coordinator:
Percy Magee, USDA NRCS National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Alternate Name
Trichloris pluriflora, four-flower trichloris

Uses
Multiflower false Rhodes grass is grazed by livestock and occasionally by deer. Birds eat the seed.

From Hitchcock (1950) @ plants.usda.gov

Prepared: 13may02 ahv; jul03 ahv; 20sep05 jsp

For more information about this and other plants, please contact your local NRCS field office or Conservation District, and visit the PLANTS Web site <http://plants.usda.gov> or the Plant Materials Program Web site <http://plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov>

Plant Materials <http://plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov/>
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