

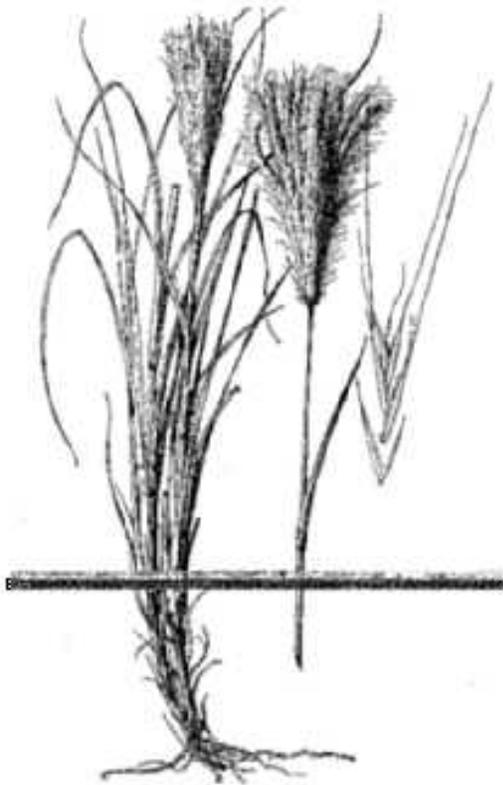
MULTIFLOWER FALSE RHODES GRASS

Chloris pluriflora (Fourn.)

W.D. Clayton

Plant Symbol = CHPL2

Contributed By: USDA NRCS National Plant Data Center



From Hitchcock (1950)
@ plants.usda.gov

Alternate Name

Trichloris pluriflora, four-flower trichloris

Uses

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

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 spikelets 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

Leithead, H.L., L.L. Yarlett, & T.N. Shiflett. 1976. 100 native forage grasses in 11 southern states. USDA SCS *Agriculture Handbook No. 389*, Washington, DC.

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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>>

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