SAND LOVEGRASS
Eragrostis trichodes (Nutt.) Wood
Plant Symbol = ERTR3

Contributed By: USDA NRCS National Plant Data Center

Alternate Name
sand love grass, tall love grass.

Uses
Sand lovegrass is grazed by livestock and is sometimes cut for hay.

Status
Please consult the PLANTS Web site and your State Department of Natural Resources for this plant’s current status, such as, state noxious status and wetland indicator values.

Description
Grass Family (Poaceae). Sand lovegrass is a warm-season, short-lived, perennial bunch grass. The height ranges from 2-1/2 to 5 feet. The leaf blade is flat. It is narrow and rolls inward under dry conditions, giving a threadlike appearance. The leaf sheath is rounded, nearly as long as the internodes, and hairy an inch or so below collar. The seedhead has a large open and purplish panicle and spikelets mostly 4 to 6 flowered.

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

Management
Occasionally, it is included in range-seeding mixtures for quick cover and forage production. This grass is seldom a key management species. It cures well on the stem and provides good grazing in the fall and winter, if grazing is deferred during summer months.

Establishment
This grass has a high stem to leaf ratio. After stems are grazed off, they often become stiff and harsh to touch. It can grow principally on deep sands and sandy loam soils.

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

Reference

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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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