CURTIS’ DROPSEED
*Sporobolus curtissii* (Vasey ex Beal) Small ex Scribn.

Contributed By: USDA NRCS National Plant Data Center

*Plant Symbol = SPCU*

**Alternate Names**
Curtis dropseed

**Uses**
Curtis’ dropseed is grazed readily by cattle during the winter and spring.

**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). Curtis’ dropseed is a native, cool-season, perennial bunch grass. The height ranged from 1 to 2 feet. The leaf blade is mostly basal, flat, narrow, 6 to 10 inches long, and the upper surface near the base is hairy. The leaf sheath is shorter than the internodes and the basal sheaths are hairy at the throat. The seedhead has an open panicle 6 to 8 inches long and straw-colored glumes that remain after the seeds disseminate.

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

**Management**
For better grazing conditions, if vegetative growth accumulates after winter deferments of 2 or more years, ranges should be burned in late winter and grazing deferred for 3 to 4 weeks or until fall.

**Establishment**
This species makes considerable growth during the winter. It produces seeds in early May and June. Sometimes it remains green during the summer and early fall. A few seed stalks are produced from a single plant. It is primarily adapted to moist sandy 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

Edited: 13may02 ahv; jul03 ahv; 20sep05 jsp; 070116 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](http://plants.usda.gov) or the Plant Materials Program Web site [http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov](http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all...
prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Read about Civil Rights at the Natural Resources Conservation Service.