

ELYMUS TRACHYCAULUS (Link) Gould
Bearded Wheat Grass

FAMILY: Graminae (Poaceae)

SYNONYMS: *Agropyron trachycaulum* (Link) Malte

HABIT: Herbaceous solitary or caespitose perennial, 4-10 dm.; flowering June-August.

SIMILAR SPECIES: *E. trachycaulus* is an extremely variable species that frequently hybridizes with other species in its own and closely related genera, and taxonomic problems abound. It may be divided into somewhat confluent varieties.

TOTAL RANGE: Nfld. to AK, s. to WV, KY, IL, MO, and AZ.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Ashtabula, Champaign, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lucas, Portage, and Summit counties. Pre-1980 records are from Belmont, Henry, Holmes, and Marion counties.

HABITAT: This grass is adapted to a wide range of soils and climates. It grows in very dry to very boggy habitats.

HAZARDS: Grazing.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Presumed good due to its ecological adaptability.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Mature flowering material with underground parts needed for identification. Note density of basal tufts.

COMMENTS: This grass is very likely more common than the records indicate, and its known Ohio distribution probably can be extended with intensive searching. This is an economically important species that is cultivated in parts of its range for hay and for revegetation purposes.

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