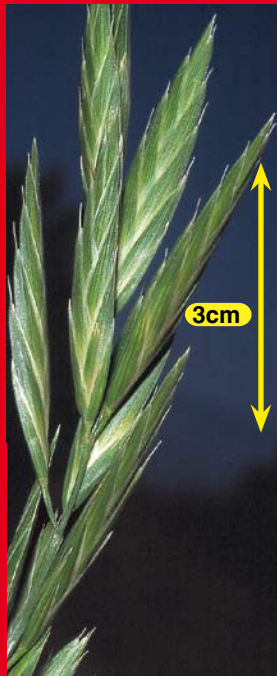


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SALTdeck Series

# PRAIRIE GRASS

*Bromus catharticus*

G11  
GRASS



# PRAIRIE GRASS

*Bromus catharticus*



**Alternative name:** Brome Grass.

**Family:** Poaceae.

**Description:** Robust annual, occasionally biennial in favourable sites to about 1 m tall. Leaves to 40 cm long, slightly rough on the margins. Spikelets large (1.5–3.5 cm long), flattened. Flowers spring.

**Key features:** Large open pyramidal panicle. Spikelets strongly compressed. With or without a very short awn (see photo).

**Value:** Under favourable conditions produces a large bulk of palatable and nutritious forage. Does not recover well from sustained grazing. Matures rapidly under dry conditions and seeds prolifically.

**Salinity and waterlogging tolerance:** Low tolerance to salinity and sustained waterlogging.

**Notes:** Native to South America. Cosmopolitan. Naturalised in temperate regions in all States. Makes main growth in winter–spring period. Grows over a wide range but generally does not invade undisturbed plant communities.

**References:** *Flora of South Australia*, Jessop and Toelken (eds), Part 4, 4<sup>th</sup> edition 1986. *Flora of Victoria*, Walsh and Entwisle (eds), Vol. 2, 1994. *Flora of NSW*, Harden (ed), Vol. 4, 1993. *Plants of Western NSW*, Cunningham et al., 1981.

