



PLANTING GUIDE
'KINCHAFOONEE' VIRGINIA WILDRYE
SELECTED CLASS OF NATURAL
GERMPLASM
Elymus virginicus

USDA-NRCS Jimmy Carter PMC
Americus, Georgia



SPECIES: *Elymus virginicus* L.

RELEASE NAME: 'Kinchafoonee'

GENERAL INFORMATION: Virginia Wildrye is a native perennial cool season grass. It is a robust grass, which produces an attractive seedhead in late spring. USDA-NRCS Jimmy Carter Plant Materials Center recently released a new selection called 'Kinchafoonee'.

DESCRIPTION: It is a native of Anderson County Texas. It has a wide range of adaptation. It has been grown primarily in pure stands. Conservation uses include: field borders, logging roads, critical areas, and cool season cover crop.

USE: Kinchafoonee will be primarily used in open and wooded rural areas , however, this attractive native grass also shows potential as an urban landscape and restoration plant.

ADAPTATION: Kinchafoonee is tolerant of most upland sites. It is most productive on moderately well drained floodplain sites. It shows potential for adaptation in coastal plain and piedmont in the Southeast.

ESTABLISHMENT:

Virginia Wildrye seed have very long and persistent awns and will not pass through conventional equipment unless ordered as “debearded” seed. Debearded seed may pass through a conventional drill, though it may still be best to use a special drill designed for such native seed. Some native seed drills have multiple boxes, which allow for the sowing of this type seed. Virginia Wildrye should be seeded at ¼ to ½ inch deep. In sandy soils be especially careful not to bury seed too deep!

If a special seed drill is not available, seed may be broadcast over a site. Broadcast thoroughly debearded seed with a drop spreader or cyclone spreader set with large openings and then cultipack to lightly cover seed. To enhance broadcast seeding increase seeding rate and cultipack before and after seeding. When planting a small area (1/4-acre) in droughty conditions, an optional step to enhance the stand would involve lightly mulching the seeded area.

SOILS: Kinchafoonee is most productive and adapted to moderately well to somewhat well drained sites.

PLANTING DATE: Time of optimum planting can vary due to soils, latitude and elevation. We recommend August- September in the Piedmont and September- October in the Coastal Plain as the normal optimal planting dates.

FERTILIZATION: Under low pH conditions, apply enough lime to raise pH to around 6.0. After establishment apply complete fertilizer in late fall..

SEEDING RATE: Broadcast 20-30 pounds pure live seed/acre, or 15-20 pounds pure live seed/acre drilled.

PLANTING DEPTH: Under most conditions for best results plant approximately .25- .5 inch deep.

PLANTING EQUIPMENT: Planting can be accomplished with fertilizer spreaders followed by cultipackers. Also special native grass drills can be utilized.

MANAGEMENT: Management of Virginia Wildrye is similar to other cool season grasses such as fescue. Little work with herbicides has been conducted. Most weed control at the PMC has been performed with timely mowing at a relatively elevated mower height during late fall through winter. Also cultivation has been employed to remove weeds.

SEED HARVESTING: Seed can be harvested with standard combines. Harvest dates in Southwest Georgia are normally June or July.

The seed yield varies depending on weather conditions from 125#/Ac to 175#/Ac.

At the Jimmy Carter PMC in Southwest Georgia the following combine settings are used for seed harvest.

<u>Concave</u>	<u>Cylinder Speed</u>	<u>RPM</u>	<u>Fan Setting</u>
¼”	1100-1200	Full Throttle = 2400 rpm	2

DISEASE AND INSECTS: This selection does not have any particular resistance to disease or insects beyond those commonly found in the species.

WHERE TO GET HELP: For more information , contact Donald Surrency, Plant Materials Specialist, Thomson, Georgia, 706-595-1339. E-mail don.surrency@gathomson.fsc.usda.gov. Mike Owsley, Jimmy Carter PMC, Americus, Georgia, 912-924-4499. E-mail mike.owsley@ga.usda.gov.

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