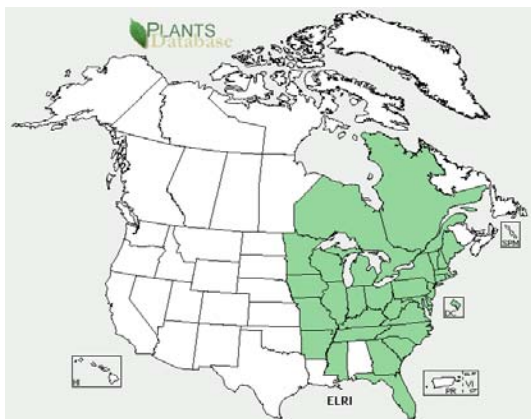


Field Collection of Riverbank Wildrye (*Elymus riparius* Wiegand)

DESCRIPTION: Riverbank wildrye is a native, cool-season, clump-forming perennial grass without rhizomes. It grows from 3-4 ft tall, blooms from June to August, and produces small seed heads. Seed heads are 3-8 in long with two spikelets at each node.



WHERE USUALLY FOUND:

Riverbank wildrye prefers moist soils and is found in stream borders, alluvial flats and meadows. It also does well in clay soils. Riverbank wildrye is shade tolerant, but prefers full sun.



Grain kernel with awn between two glumes.

WHAT TO COLLECT: Collect seed heads from a minimum of 25 plants from each collection site.

WHEN TO COLLECT: Harvest when seed is at hard dough stage. This will be in August to September – typically 6 weeks after flowering.

HOW TO HANDLE COLLECTION: Collect seed in a paper bag. Allow seed to dry in the open bag for about 1 week prior to shipping to the Plant Materials Center. Send collected seed heads to:

Rose Lake Plant Materials Center
7472 Stoll Road
E. Lansing, MI 48823
517/641-6300



Spike erect, 3 to 8 in long, sometimes partially enclosed in flag leaf. Photos by PMC staff.