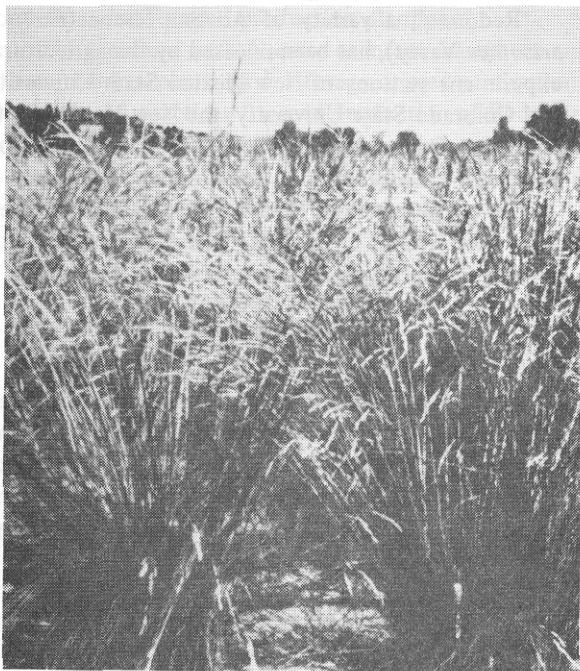


# *Redondo* Arizona Fescue



- A NEW VARIETY OF ARIZONA FESCUE
- LONG-LIVED, COOL-SEASON BUNCHGRASS
- ABILITY TO TOLERATE EXTENDED DRY PERIODS
- VALUABLE FOR SOIL STABILIZATION AND RANGE REVEGETATION



Cooperative Extension Service

# Redondo

## Arizona Fescue

'Redondo', a variety of Arizona fescue (*Festuca arizonica* Vasey), has been released by the agricultural experiment stations of New Mexico State University and Colorado State University, the New Mexico State Highway Department, and the Soil Conservation Service of the USDA.

The performance of Redondo was good, compared with other strains in the same trials. Its seedling vigor is exceptional, which is characteristic of the species.

### DESCRIPTION

The original source of this native, cool-season, perennial bunchgrass was in the ponderosa pine vegetation zone west of Los Alamos, New Mexico. The plants usually have dense bunches with stems from 12 to 40 inches (30 to 100 cm) tall. The leaves are bluish-green.

### AREA OF ADAPTATION AND USE

Arizona fescue is commonly found in dry, shallow clay loams. This species grows on shallow clay loam to loam and sandy to gravelly soils, mainly in association with ponderosa pine, at elevations from 6,000 to 10,000 feet (1,800 to 3,000 m) from Colorado to Texas and west to Nevada.

The extensive tough fibrous root system of Arizona fescue makes the plant valuable for soil stabilization. This species has the ability to tolerate extended dry periods.

Redondo is recommended for planting wherever Arizona fescue is adapted. It is useful for revegetating rangelands and stabilizing soil where the vegetation has been greatly reduced or destroyed by construction activities, surface mining, overgrazing, brush control, or fires. This grass is palatable to all classes of livestock.

The recommended seeding rate is 3 pounds per acre (3 kg/ha) of pure live seed.

Seed yield of Redondo was low at Los Lunas, but successful seed production can be expected in New Mexico and other states within the area of adaptation for the species. Redondo produced 197 pounds per acre (220 kg/ha) of pure live seed at the Bridger, Montana, Plant Materials Center. A rate of 2 to 3 pounds per acre (2 to 3 kg/ha) pure live seed is recommended for seed-production plantings.

No problems with diseases or insects have been encountered in plantings for forage or seed production.

Cultural practices for seed production of Redondo are about the same as for many other cool-season grasses. Increased yields may be possible by manipulating the amounts of fertilizers and supplemental water applied.

### SEED SUPPLY

Limited quantities of foundation Redondo seed will be available to seed growers through crop improvement associations and soil and water or natural resource conservation districts. Redondo Arizona fescue seed is expected to be available in commercial markets in 1977.

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

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