

## LINDHEIMER'S MUHLY

*Muhlenbergia lindheimeri* A.S.

Hitchc.

Plant Symbol = MULI

Contributed By: USDA NRCS National Plant Data Center



From Hitchcock (1950)  
@ plants.usda.gov

### Alternate Names

Lindheimer muhly

### Uses

Cattle graze the leaves of Lindheimer's muhly that remain green during the winter. Horses sometimes choose this grass. It is an indicator of fair range condition.

### Status

Please consult the PLANTS Web site and your State Department of Natural Resources for this plant's current status, such as, state noxious status and wetland indicator values.

### Description

Grass Family (Poaceae). Lindheimer's muhly is a native, warm-season, perennial bunch grass. The height ranges from 3 to 6 feet. The leaf blade is 6 to 30 inches long, firm, and usually folded. The leaf sheath is mostly basal and overlapping. The ligule is long, slender, white, pointed, and has a papery membrane that is somewhat hidden in folded blades. The seedhead is a narrow, somewhat loose panicle 8 to 24 inches long, often purplish with numerous branches usually less than 2-1/2 inches long, and crowded with spikelets which lie close to the main stem.

*Distribution:* For current distribution, please consult the Plant Profile page for this species on the PLANTS Web site.

### Management

This grass is seldom, if ever, abundant enough to be a key management species. Because it is tough and wiry, it is seldom overgrazed. Proper grazing used and management of more palatable associated grasses favor Lindheimer muhly. It can be decreased by close mowing in June and July, if terrain permits use of mowing equipment.

### Establishment

It grows from early spring until the fall. Large, dense bunches have some green leaves throughout the winter. Seedheads formed in the summer persist for several months. It is adapted to highly calcareous, somewhat mesic sites on hillsides and in draws where one finds seeps.

### Cultivars, Improved and Selected Materials (and area of origin)

Please contact your local NRCS Field Office.

### Reference

Leithead, H.L., L.L. Yarlett, & T.N. Shiflett. 1976. 100 native forage grasses in 11 southern states. USDA SCS Agriculture Handbook No. 389, Washington, DC.

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Program Web site <<http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov>>

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