

# 'Canbar' CANBY BLUEGRASS

**Scientific Name:** *Poa secunda*

**Common Name:** Canby bluegrass

**Cultivar Name:** 'Canbar'

**Selected By:** Pullman PMC, USDA-NRCS

**Release Cooperators:** USDA-SCS, Washington State University Agricultural Experiment Station, Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station

**Release Date:** 1979

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**ORIGIN:** 'Canbar' was developed by the SCS-USDA and Washington Ag Experiment Station in 1979

**DESCRIPTION:** 'Canbar' is a cool season-perennial bunch grass associated with bluebunch wheatgrass and ponderosa pine plant communities. It is small, culms sometimes grow up to 70 cm, and makes vigorous early spring growth. The leaves are mostly basal, flat and to 3 mm broad. It has a narrow panicle, 10 to 15 cm long, with short, appressed branches. Spikelets are three to five-flowered. Lemmas are crisp-pubescent on the lower part of the back. Canby bluegrass is apomictic.

**DISEASE AND INSECT PROBLEMS:** No significant problems have been noted.

**SEED PRODUCTION:** Potential appears to be 180-270 lb/acre (dryland production) with proper treatment.

**SEEDING RECOMMENDATIONS:** Fall seeding (late October-mid-November) is a must in low rainfall areas. It may be spring seeded for seed production or under irrigation. Seed not over ¼ inch deep on a firm, clod free seedbed. It is recommended all plantings be made on a Pure Live Seed basis.

**CONSERVATION USES:** The primary use of Canbar is in a mixture on sites that need an early spring perennial grass to compete with annual weeds. It grows well in rainfall up to 24 inches or more but is best used on droughty locations with winter and spring moisture available. On these sites it is most effectively seeded as an understory with a mixture of other grasses.

**AVAILABILITY:** For additional information contact: Wayne Crowder, Soil Conservationist, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Pullman Plant Materials Center (509) 335-7376 or email crowder@wsu.edu.