

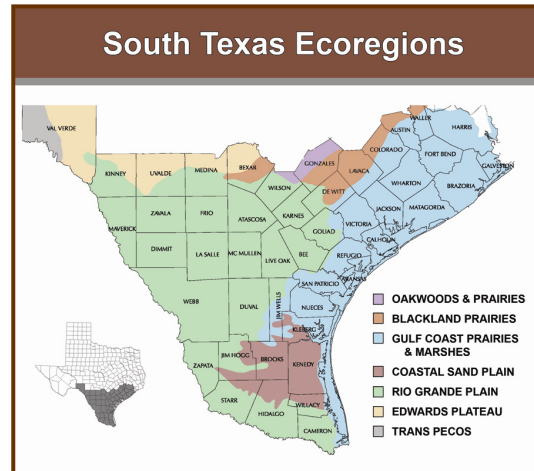
Description

Kinney Germplasm false Rhodes grass [*Trichloris crinita* (Lag.) Parodi and previously *Chloris crinita* Lag.] was originally collected near Brackettville, Texas. False Rhodes grass is a native, warm-season perennial bunchgrass. It is also commonly known as two flower trichloris. It grows 1 to 2 feet tall, with leaves 3 to 8 inches long. Plants produce dense, feathery, 1- to 2-inch long seedheads that turn from green to light brown or blonde at maturity.

Uses and Adaptation

False Rhodes grass grows best on sandy to sandy loam soils. It will tolerate soils that are weakly saline. Its natural range is San Antonio, Texas, south into the western two-thirds of the Rio Grande Plain and westward to Arizona.

False Rhodes grass should be used primarily as a component in seed



mixtures for range restoration. It has potential for use in pasture plantings, filterstrips, erosion control plantings, and landscaping.

Kinney Germplasm has performed well at locations in the Rio Grande Plain, Gulf Coast Prairies and Marshes, and Rolling Plains regions of Texas. False Rhodes grass also occurs naturally in the Edwards Plateau and Trans Pecos regions of Texas. Kinney Germplasm may be adapted to these two regions as well, but this has not been verified through field testing.

Planting Methods

Seedbed preparation should begin well in advance of planting. Establish a clean, weed-free seedbed by either tillage or herbicides. Prior to planting, the site should be firm and have accumulated soil moisture. Planting can

be scheduled for early spring or where there are few cool-season weeds, it can be planted in the fall. Because of the fluffy nature of the seed, false Rhodes grass is best seeded using a grass drill equipped with picker wheels to evenly distribute the seed and prevent clogging of the planter tubes. Broadcast seeding may be used in areas not easily planted with a drill, but additional practices to encourage good seed to soil contact, such as cultipacking and harrowing, may be necessary after planting. There are approximately 1,428,000 seeds per pound of false Rhodes grass.

Seed should be planted 1/8 to 1/4 inch deep. It is better to plant too shallow than too deep. A seeding rate of 1 pound of pure live seed (PLS) per acre is recommended. This corresponds to planting 20 live seeds per square foot. When planting a mixture, the rate of false Rhodes grass should be reduced according to the total percentage desired in the mixture.



Management

False Rhodes grass should not be grazed within the first year of planting. Contact your local NRCS field office for assistance in developing a Prescribed Grazing Plan.



Availability

Kinney Germplasm (PI-434462) false Rhodes grass was released in 1999. Breeder seed will be maintained by the E. "Kika" de la Garza Plant Materials Center in conjunction with Texas Foundation Seed Service. Breeder seed may be obtained by contacting the PMC.

For More Information

E. "Kika" de la Garza Plant Materials Center
3409 North FM 1355
Kingsville, Texas 78363
Phone: 361-595-1313
<http://plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov/stpmc/>

or

Plant Materials Specialist
USDA-NRCS
WR Poage Federal Building
101 South Main Street
Temple, Texas 76501-7682
Phone: 254-742-9888

or

Your local USDA Natural Resources
Conservation Service Office

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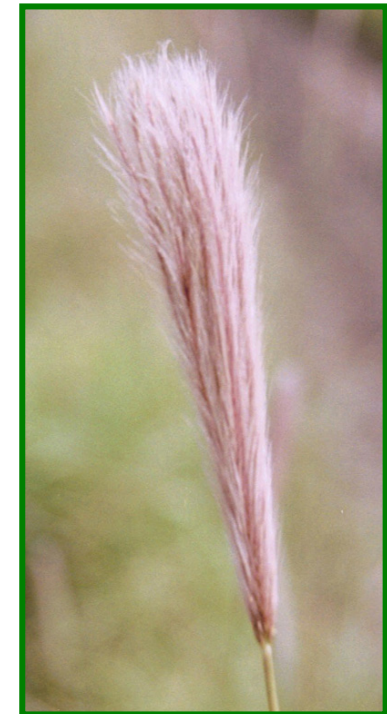
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Revised February 2007



Kinney Germplasm **False Rhodes Grass**

Trichloris crinita (Lag.) Parodi



E. "Kika" de la Garza
Plant Materials Center
Kingsville, Texas