

Phalaris arundinacea – Reed Canary Grass

Invasive grass



A stand of reed canary grass.
Photo: Les Mehrhoff, IPANE



Flowers are green to purple (above) and turn to beige (below) over time. Top photo: Glen Mittelhauser, gobotany.newenglandwild.org. Bottom photo: Barry Rice, sarracenia.com, Bugwood.org



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Close-up of green- purple inflorescence. Photo: Joseph M. DiTomaso, University of California - Davis, Bugwood.org

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The transparent ligule distinguishes reed canary grass from native grasses. Photo: Caleb Slemmons, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, Bugwood.org



Reed canary grass can grow more than 6 feet tall. Photo: Jamie Nielsen, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Cooperative Extension Service, Bugwood.org



Stems are hairless. Photo: Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org



Reed canary grass spreads aggressively through underground rhizomes. Photo: Les Mehrhoff, IPANE



Variegated forms of reed canary grass can spread from gardens. Photo: John M. Randall, The Nature Conservancy, Bugwood.org