

AMERICAN SLOUGHGRASS *Beckmannia syzigachne*

Market: WDOT, ODOT, ADOT, USFS, SCS, USFWS, disturbed sites, reclamation, mitigation and soil stabilization of native riparian and wetland site.

Characteristics: American sloughgrass is a tall, light green, stout, erect annual bunchgrass with round cylindrical stems. It has approximately 90,000 seeds per pound. It is an obligate wetland species. Leaves are flat (5-10 mm) and long. Mature plants range from 1-1.25 meter in height depending on soil type and hydrology. Flowers are in 10-30 clusters, narrow spikes that are pressed close to top of stem (culm). Spikes are 10-30 cm long. Habitat consists of bunchgrass prairies, moist meadows and vernal pools, marshy flats, ditches and mud of irrigated fields, also along edges of lakes, sloughs and ponds where it has been planted widely for wildlife food. American sloughgrass is compatible with other wetland and riparian annual and perennial grasses, forbs, legumes. American sloughgrass provides excellent wildlife habitat and food for small mammals, game birds and waterfowl.

Comments: American sloughgrass exhibits strong seedling vigor, rapid establishment and good plant coverage 60-100 days post seeding. Fall planting is preferred to spring planting as fully hydrated soils in the winter expedite mature plant establishment. Summer droughty soils characteristic of many regions in the Pacific Northwest inhibit mature plant establishment if planted in the spring. On heavy clay fully saturated soils few plants outside of some *Glyceria* spp can compete with American sloughgrass in stand establishment. Consider using American sloughgrass, water plantain *Alisma plantago-aquatica* and other obligate and facultative wetland species to reclaim reed canarygrass invaded wetland and riparian sites.

Seeding rate: Seed @ 8-15 lbs. per acre. Drill seeding requires 30% less seed than broadcast. Lower seeding rates are recommended on loam soils. Higher seeding rates are recommended on high bulk density or clay loam soils. American sloughgrass grows extremely well in high bulk density heavy clay soils of western OR, WA and BC.

Availability: Eugene BLM is population collected in the West Eugene Wetland and Amazon Creek. It is characterized by robust tall plant growth, heavy leaf canopy and bright green leaf color. It has exhibited resistance to many of the *Puccinia* spp. leaf, crown and seed head diseases. Other sources of American sloughgrass are available however this seed is sourced outside of the Pacific Northwest and is not native to our region.



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