

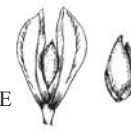
Key to Common Wetland Grass Genera and Subfamilies

1. Spikelets more or less flattened in cross section, glumes mostly equal in length, 1 or more florets per spikelet (glumes lacking in a few species).
..... FESTUCOIDEAE
1. Spikelets appearing more rounded in cross section, with either 2 florets in a pair along the rachis or with asymmetrical glumes with the first being shorter..... PANICOIDEAE



Key to the Tribes of Festucoideae

1. Plants woody, mostly large shrubs or trees..... BAMBUSEAE
1. Plants herbaceous, sometimes tall.
 2. Inflorescence of 1 or more sessile spikelets appearing like a single spike.
 3. Spikelets on 1 side of inflorescence; rachis straight..... CHLORIDEAE
 3. Spikelets on 2 opposite sides of inflorescence; rachis zig-zag HORDEAE
 2. Inflorescence of a raceme or panicle, sometimes narrow and appearing spike-like but with a short pedicel and never a true spike.
 4. Spikelets with 1 fertile floret and 2 small sterile or empty lemmas located at the base of the fertile floret PHALARIDEAE
 4. Spikelets with 1 or more florets, the sterile florets, if any, located above the basal fertile floret
 5. Panicles with distinct groups of pistillate spikelets above and staminate spikelets below; spikelets unisexual ZIZANIEAE
 5. Spikelets usually perfect, if unisexual then not in distinct groups
 6. Spikelets strictly 1-floret
 7. Leaf sheath retorse-scabrous to scabrous and sharp-cutting to touch; glumes reduced or lacking ORYZEAE
 7. Leaf sheaths smooth to slightly scabrous but not sharp and cutting to touch; glumes present AGROSTIDEAE
 6. Spikelets with 2 or more florets
 8. Glumes longer than the first lemma..... AVENEAE
 8. Glumes shorter than the first lemma..... FESTUCEAE



Key to the Tribes of Panicoideae

1. Spikelets embedded in the rachis..... TRIPSACEAE
1. Spikelets distinct, not embedded in the rachis.
 2. Spikelets in racemes appearing fuzzy and in pairs along the rachis, glumes equal in length, 2 florets with one pedicellate and sterile and the other sessile and fertile, rarely both pedicellate ANDROPOGONEAE
 2. Spikelets in racemes or panicles, not fuzzy and not appearing paired, with asymmetrical glumes with the first being shorter, 2 sessile florets with 1 as a sterile lemma and the other fertile PANICEAE



Keys to Genera in the Tribes of Festucoideae

Keys to Genera in the Tribe Bambuseae..... *Arundinaria*



Keys to Genera in the Tribe Chlorideae

- 1. Spikelets with two or more perfect florets..... *Eleusine*
- 1. Spikelets with one perfect floret
 - 2. Inflorescence of digitate spikes..... *Cynodon*
 - 2. Inflorescence of alternate spikes..... *Spartina*



Keys to Genera in the Tribe Hordeae

- 1. Spikelets single at each joint of the rachis (including modified bristles)
 - 2. Spikelets with flatwise towards the rachis, glumes present *Agropyron*
 - 2. Spikelets with edgewise towards the rachis, glumes absent *Lolium*
- 1. Spikelets commonly 2 or 3 at each joint of the rachis.
 - 3. Long bristled spikelets lacking at nodes *Elymus*
 - 3. Long bristles at rachis nodes representing modified spikelets
 - 4. Lemmas 8-10 mm long *Sitanion*
 - 4. Lemmas 5.5-8 mm long *Hordeum*



Keys to Genera in the Tribe Phalarideae

- 1. Glumes very unequal, the second twice as long as first *Anthroxanthum*
- 1. Glumes nearly equal *Phalaris*



Keys to Genera in the Tribe Zizanieae *Zizania*



Keys to Genera in the Tribe Oryeae *Leersia*









Keys to Genera in the Tribe Aveneae



- 1. Florets exceed the length of the glumes *Deschampsia*
- 1. Florets equal to or less than the glumes
 - 2. Lemmas with awns long and straight or lacking; plants not fuzzy..... *Avena*
 - 2. Lemmas with short hooked awn; plants fuzzy *Holcus*



Keys to Genera in the Tribe Agrostideae

1. Inflorescence a dense, symmetrical, spike-like panicle
 2. Glume awn equal to or less than glume..... *Phleum* 
 2. Glumes not awned.
 3. Lemmas awned.
 4. Lemma awn bent..... *Alopecurus* 
 4. Lemma awn straight..... *Muhlenbergia schreberi* 
 3. Lemmas not awned..... *Sporobolus indicus*
1. Inflorescence a branched panicle, either open or contracted.
 3. Lemma thick, hardened and leathery.
 4. Lemma with three awns..... *Aristida*
 4. Lemma with one awn..... *Piptochaetium*
 3. Lemma thin and membranous.
 5. Panicle drooping..... *Cinna* 
 5. Panicle ascending to erect.
 6. Glumes of unequal sizes, or one absent..... *Brachyelytrum*
 6. Glumes similarly sized, both present.
 7. Ligule triangular, red inflorescence third to half the plant
..... *Muhlenbergia capillaris*
 7. Ligule various, if triangular, then inflorescence not as above.
 8. Hairs at base of lemma half or greater the length of lemmas ..
..... *Calamagrostis* 
 8. Hairs of lemmas less than 1/4 length of lemmas, or as short
hairs on lemmas or lacking *Agrostis* 

Keys to Genera in the Tribe Festuceae

1. Panicle in dense 1-sided or with 1-sided branched clusters at the ends of 2 or 3 stiff, naked panicle branches *Dactylis* 
1. Panicle not dense 1-sided clusters.
 2. Glumes dissimilar, the first narrow and pointed, the second wide and rounded
..... *Sphenopholis*
 2. Glumes of similar size and shape.
 3. Base of lemmas, callus, or nerves bearded *Poa*
 3. Base of lemmas, callus or nerves glabrous but sometimes ciliate or minutely hairy, but not densely bearded.
 4. Spikelets strongly flattened, lemmas 1-3 nerved *Eragrostis*
 4. Spikelets slightly flattened to sub-round-ish, lemmas 3 or more nerves.
 5. Lemmas 3 – 7 nerved. Lowest 1 – 4 florets in each spikelet are sterile
..... *Chasmanthium* 
 5. All florets perfect.

- 6. Lemmas 2-toothed (notched) at apex and often awned from the notch *Bromus*
- 6. Lemmas not 2-toothed at apex and if awned then from terminal apex.
 - 7. Nerves of lemmas appearing parallel and not converging; lemmas never awned *Glyceria*
 - 7. Nerves of lemmas converging towards apex; lemmas often awned.
 - 8. Large perennials with a hardened base, wide (3 – 12 mm) flat leaves with hairy auricles, spikelets 5 – 10 mm long *Schedonorus*
 - 8. Smaller plants, annual or perennial.
 - 9. Spikelets with \geq six florets per spikelet. Annuals; awns of lemma shorter than or same length as lemma *Vulpia*
 - 9. Perennials with narrow leaves (2 – 3 mm wide) and inrolled margins *Festuca*



Keys to Genera in the Tribes of Panicoideae

Keys to Genera in the Tribe Andropogoneae

- 1. Wide, heart-shaped leaf base that clasps stem *Arthraxon*
- 1. Narrow to wide linear or lanceolate leaves.
 - 2. Paired spikelets, both perfect.
 - 3. Small (< 1 m) lax, straggling plants; leaves with a wide silver stripe *Microstegium*
 - 3. Large (1 – 6 m), erect plants; leaves lacking a wide silver stripe *Saccharum*
 - 2. Paired spikelets; one perfect, the other staminate or absent.
 - 4. Inflorescence of 1-several solitary, digitate, or aggregated, spike-like racemes *Andropogon*
 - 4. Inflorescence an open panicle and not digitate.
 - 5. Paired spikelets, one perfect, the other staminate *Sorghum*
 - 5. Paired spikelets, one perfect, the other a hairy pedicel *Sorghastrum*



Keys to Genera in the Tribe Paniceae

- 1. Inflorescence of 1-several solitary, digitate, or aggregated, spike-like racemes.
 - 2. Inflorescence of digitate spikes *Digitaria*
 - 2. Inflorescence of alternate spikes *Paspalum*
- 1. Inflorescence a branched panicle, either open or contracted.
 - 3. Panicle dense, symmetrical, and spike-like.
 - 4. Spikelets subtended by persistent bristles *Setaria*
 - 4. Spikelets not subtended by bristles. Second glume and sterile lemma awned; spikelets with coarse hairs *Echinochloa*
 - 3. Panicle open with spreading or ascending branches.
 - 5. Fertile lemma thick, leathery and hardened.
 - 6. Blades of basal leaf blades different shape than cauline and forming basal rosette; primary panicle terminal with secondary in axils *Dichanthelium*
 - 6. Blades of leaves similar and not forming basal rosette; panicle terminal *Panicum*
 - 5. Sterile palea and fertile lemma thick, leathery, hardened *Steinchisma*



- Keys to Genera in the Tribe Tripsaceae *Tripsacum*

