

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



Key to the Tribes of Panicoideae

- 1. 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
- 1. 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 Chlorideae

- 1. Spikelets round-ish, glumes almost equal in length, tufted annual *Beckmannia*
- 1. Spikelets elongated, glumes unequal in length, perennials with rhizomes *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*



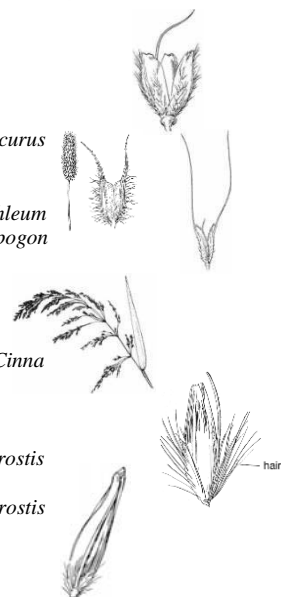
Keys to Genera in the Tribe Phalarideae

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



Keys to Genera in the Tribe Agrostideae

- 1. Inflorescence a dense, symmetrical, spike like panicle
 - 2. Glumes not awned *Alopecurus*
 - 2. Glumes awned
 - 3. Awn equal or less than glume *Phleum*
 - 3. Awn 2 to 3 times as long as glumes *Polypogon*
- 1. Inflorescence a branched panicle, either open or contracted; glumes not awned (sometimes acuminate tipped).
 - 4. Panicle drooping *Cinna*
 - 4. Panicle ascending to erect
 - 5. Hairs at base of lemma half or greater the length of lemmas *Calamagrostis*
 - 5. Hairs of lemmas less than ¼ length of lemmas, or as short hairs on lemmas or lacking *Agrostis*



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 long twisted awn; plants not fuzzy *Danthonia*
 - 2. Lemmas with short hooked awn; plants fuzzy *Holcus*



Keys to Genera in the Tribe Festuceae

- 1. Tall stout reeds with large, plumose panicles; rachilla with long, brownish hairs overtopping the lemmas *Phragmites*
- 1. Low to tall grasses, the panicle, if present, not plumose; rachilla or lemma hairs shorter than the lemmas or lacking.
 - 2. Panicle in dense 1-sided or with 1-sided branched clusters at the ends of 2 or 3 stiff, naked panicle branches *Dactylus*
 - 2. Panicle not dense 1-sided clusters.
 - 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 5 or more nerved.
 - 5. Lemmas 2-toothed (notched) at apex and often awned from the notch *Bromus*
 - 5. Lemmas not 2-toothed (notched) at apex and if awned then from terminal apex.
 - 6. Nerves of lemmas converging towards apex; lemmas awned in many cases *Festuca*
 - 6. Nerves of lemmas appearing parallel and not converging; lemmas never awned *Glyceria*



Keys to Genera in the Tribe Oryeae *Leersia*

Keys to Genera in the Tribe Zizanieae *Zizania*



Keys to Genera in the Tribes of Panicoideae

Keys to Genera in the Tribe Andropogoneae

- 1. Inflorescence of 1-several solitary, digitate, or aggregated, spike-like racemes *Andropogon*
- 1. Inflorescence an open panicle of 1-few joints and not digitate *Sorghastrum*



Keys to Genera in the Tribe Paniceae

- 1. Spikelets subtended by persistent bristles *Setaria*
- 1. Spikelets not subtended by bristles.
 - 2. Second glume and sterile lemma awned; spikelets with coarse hairs *Echinochloa*
 - 2. Second glume and sterile lemma not awned; spikelets lacking coarse hairs.
 - 3. Blades of basal leaf blades different shape than cauline and forming basal rosette; primary panicle terminal with secondary in axils *Dichantherium*
 - 3. Blades of leaf similar and not forming basal rosette; panicle terminal *Panicum*

