



Bromus rubens

Poaceae

Red brome



BRRU2

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

growth

Tufted cool season annual bunch grass reaching 20-50 cm. Spreads by tillers emerging from the base.

Inflorescence

Densely contracted raceme to panicle, terminal on unbranched stem; 3-9 cm long, approx. half as wide; mature seedheads turn red-brown to purplish in color; dry plant turns straw colored (See photo bottom left).

spikelet

Spikelets erect, with 4-11 florets, often purplish in color, florets perfect, uppermost sterile and reduced. Rachilla disarticulates above glumes, between florets.

stems

Covered with sparse hairs, directed down or back. Stems erect and unbranched. Mid-culm internodes hollow, rounded. Nodes hairless. Internodes occasionally hairy near nodes.

leaves

Blades flat, about 4-12 cm long, 2-3 mm wide, pointed; both sides of blade densely hairy; **margins smooth, ciliolate** (minute hairs); midrib prominent. Leaf sheath closed, hairy. Collar with fine short hairs.

ligule

Ligule 1.5-5 mm long, membranous and see-through, acute with jagged edges. No auricles.

roots

Shallow fibrous root system

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SODN



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flower color

Elevation:
Below 5000 feet

Ecotypes Invaded:
Scrublands, desertlands, grasslands, riparian & woodlands.

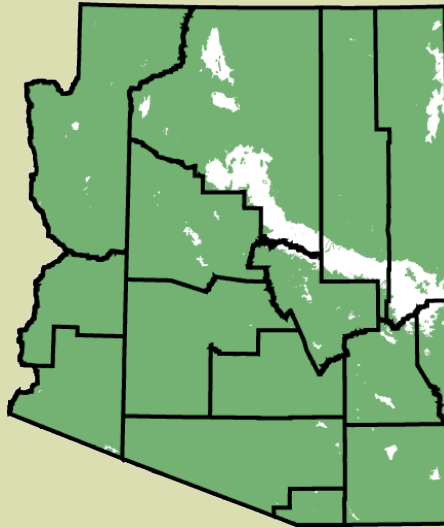
ECOLOGY & DISTRIBUTION

Found along roadsides, waste places, rangelands and cultivated fields. Common in dry desert and chaparral hillsides. Germinates in the fall, with max. growth in the spring.

Grows on shallow dry soil or poor textured, clayey soil. Common on south facing slopes. *Bromus rubens* grows readily in open woodlands, below cottonwoods, willows and mesquite trees, where light penetrates through the canopy or through deciduous trees.

The annual growth pattern, hyaline lemma, dense panicle with a purplish tinge and pubescent culm distinguish *B. rubens* from other bromes.

SUITABLE HABITAT



Suitable habitat based on the Arizona Wildlands Invasive Plant Working Group (AZ-WIPWG) assessment. Green = suitable habitat; White = unsuitable habitat; Gray = unknown. Based on Brown, Lowe & Pase (1980) vegetation communities.



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