

2,146,000 seeds per bulk pound. A seeding rate of 0.5 pound of pure live seed (PLS) per acre is recommended. In planting mixtures, reduce the rate according to the percent of multiflower false Rhodes grass in the mixture.

Management

Newly planted stands of Hidalgo Germplasm should not be grazed for 1 year after planting to allow establishment and development of adequate rootstock. Plants can be grazed to a 6-8" stubble height with no adverse affects. Multiflower false Rhodes grass plants should be allowed to produce seed annually to insure stand health. Multiflower false Rhodes grass is a long-lived perennial that is extremely drought and fire tolerant once established. Contact your local NRCS Field Office to develop a grazing management plan.

No severe insect or disease problems have been observed in multiflower false Rhodes grass.

Availability

Seed of the Hidalgo Germplasm multiflower false Rhodes grass release will be identified by USDA NRCS accession number 9093600. First generation (G0) seed will be produced and maintained by the USDA-NRCS E. "Kika" de la Garza Plant Materials Center, Kingsville, Texas in conjunction with the Texas Foundation Seed Service.

For More Information

E. "Kika" de la Garza Plant Materials Center
3409 North FM 1355
Kingsville, Texas 78363
Phone: (361) 595-1313
<http://plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov/stpmc/>

or

Plant Materials Specialist
USDA-NRCS
WR Poage Federal Building
101 South Main Street
Temple, Texas 76501-7682
Phone: (254) 742-9888

or

South Texas Natives
CKWRI-TAMUK
MSC 218, 700 University Blvd.
Kingsville, Texas 78363
Phone: (361) 593-5550
<http://ckwri.tamuk.edu/research-programs/south-texas-natives>

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Hidalgo Germplasm Multiflower False Rhodes Grass

Trichloris pluriflora Fourn.



**E. "Kika" de la Garza
Plant Materials Center
Kingsville, Texas**





Description

Hidalgo Germplasm multiflower false Rhodes grass (*Trichloris pluriflora* Fourn.) is a blend comprised of six natural populations collected in the south Texas counties of Jim Wells, Webb, Medina, Jim Hogg, Wilson and Hidalgo. Multiflower false Rhodes grass, also known as fourflower trichloris, is a warm-season, native, perennial bunch grass with mature foliage height ranging from 4 to 5 feet tall. The plants produce seed from July through September. Hidalgo Germplasm multiflower false Rhodes grass is a selected plant material cooperatively released in 2011 by the USDA NRCS E. “Kika” de la Garza Plant Materials Center and the *South Texas Natives* Project of the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. It is a selected plant material class of certified seed (natural track). The selected accessions have superior active seed germination, greater overall seed production, and higher plant vigor ratings than other collections evaluated.

No intentional breeding, selection or genetic manipulation was carried out within these populations.

Uses and Adaptation

Hidalgo Germplasm multiflower false Rhodes grass is recommended for upland wildlife and in range plantings. Multiflower false Rhodes grass is a co-dominant plant along with false Rhodes grass (*Trichloris crinita* (Lag.) Parodi), also known as twoflower trichloris, across numerous range sites in the Rio Grande Plain Ecoregion. Multiflower false Rhodes grass is one of the few native grasses in south Texas that can produce abundant forage somewhere between the forage potential of Kleingrass (*Panicum coloratum*) and buffelgrass (*Cenchrus ciliaris*). Its stature and productivity should help native seedlings compete with introduced exotic grasses, especially on sandy loam and sandy clay loam soils. Soil types of the populations included in this release

include fine sandy loam, clay loam, sandy clay loam, and clay. The best performance of Hidalgo Germplasm will be predominantly in the Rio Grande Plain. Multiflower false Rhodes grass is not cold tolerant and is unlikely to perform well outside of the Rio Grande Plain Ecoregion.

Planting Methods

Seedbed preparation should begin well in advance of planting. Planting can be scheduled for early spring or, where there are few cool-season weeds, multiflower false Rhodes grass can be planted in the fall. Establish a clean, weed-free seedbed by either tillage or herbicides. Prior to planting, the site should be firm and have accumulated soil moisture.

Multiflower false Rhodes grass is best seeded using a native-grass drill with picker wheels to ensure a good planting of the fluffy seed. Broadcast seeding may be used in areas not easily planted with a drill, but some type of additional coverage such as culti-packing or light dragging will be beneficial to ensure good seed to soil contact. Seed coatings (talc based) can also be used to increase the flowability of the fluffy seed through standard seed drills.

Seed should be planted 1/8 to 1/4 inch deep. It is better to plant too shallow than too deep. For calibration purposes, Hidalgo Germplasm multiflower false Rhodes grass contains approximately

