

# Timothy

A widely adapted, cool season perennial bunchgrass.

**Re-vegetation Series:**

This is a series of fact sheets on plants being used as trials on berms, roadways, and pipelines. Trials as well as demos are done on several locations in the B.C. Peace Region.

**Description:**

- Has a single stem that grows 1 to 4 feet (~30 to 122 cm) tall with one seed head.
- The seed is enclosed in an urn-shaped husk for protection.
- Individual shoots are biennial but the plant itself is perennial.

**Habitat/Climate:**

- Is especially well adapted to cool, humid areas and high elevations, though it can grow in a wide range on soils and climates.
- Thrives on clay, silt and sandy alluvial soil with at least 16 inches of rain per year.



	Timothy	Points to Consider
<b>Most Common Uses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pasture</li> <li>• Domestic and export hay production</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swiftly declines in quality if not harvested before its bloom stage</li> <li>• Desired for horse feed</li> </ul>
<b>Optimal Grazing Time</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early summer for most livestock</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should not be grazed too early or too closely, due to the locations of the growing point for elongation</li> <li>• Because timothy is not sod producing, it is intolerant of grazing hoof damage</li> </ul>
<b>Forage Yield</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full yield is usually possible in its first production year</li> <li>• Regrows slowly if cut or grazed in late summer.</li> </ul>
<b>Competitiveness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can co-exist with native species where it is well established</li> </ul>
<b>Hardiness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High flooding tolerance</li> <li>• Low drought tolerance</li> <li>• High winter hardiness</li> <li>• Low weed resistance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot tolerate short periods of moisture stress</li> <li>• Winter hardiness increased with adequate snow cover</li> </ul>
<b>Use in Seed Mixture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mix with legumes such as alfalfa, alsike clover, or birdsfoot trefoil</li> <li>• Should be seeded ¼ to ½" deep at a rate of 3 to 6 lbs per acre when seeded alone and doubled if broadcast seeded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relatively easy to establish as the seeds germinate quickly</li> <li>• Must be seeded shallow to get good establishment</li> </ul>
<b>Common Varieties in the Peace Region</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climax</li> <li>• Promesse</li> </ul>	

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# Hybrid Bromegrass

A newly developed, slightly creeping, winter hardy, long-lived perennial forage grass.



## Description:

- Dual purpose forage for both hay and pasture systems, producing a high quality, high volume first cut hay crop (like smooth bromegrass) followed by good regrowth for grazing and stockpiling (like meadow bromegrass).
- Has short, slowly spreading rhizomes on its roots, and is therefore less invasive than smooth bromegrass in pasture mixes.
- Stems grow upright to 100 cm (39 in) with wide leaves.

## Origin:

- Developed in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, from crossing smooth bromegrass with meadow bromegrass in 1976 and 1977.



	Hybrid Bromegrass	Points to Consider
<b>Most Common Uses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pasture</li> <li>• Hay</li> <li>• Stockpiled grazing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May be some potential for use in both rehabilitation settings and combining forestry with livestock production ("silvopasture")</li> </ul>
<b>Optimal Grazing Time</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When plant reaches 20 to 30 cm (8 to 12 in), as with meadow bromegrass</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will mature 4 to 7 days before meadow bromegrass</li> <li>• Growth rate is intermediate between smooth and meadow bromegrasses</li> </ul>
<b>Forage Yield</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High</li> <li>• Similar in forage yield to smooth bromegrass and 10% higher than meadow bromegrass in all soil zones</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Similar regrowth to meadow bromegrass</li> </ul>
<b>Competitiveness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Much less invasive than smooth bromegrass when grown in mixtures</li> <li>• Similar to meadow bromegrass in competitiveness</li> </ul>
<b>Hardiness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High drought tolerance</li> <li>• High winter hardiness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goes dormant during severe dry periods, but regrows quickly when there is moisture again</li> </ul>
<b>Use in Seed Mixture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seeding rate of 9 lbs per acre is recommended</li> <li>• Will establish well if seed is placed 1.5 to 2 cm deep and seeded at higher rates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mix with alfalfa for pasture or hay, or combine with grass species</li> <li>• Strands can be poor if seed placement is poor or rates are low</li> </ul>
<b>Common Varieties in the Peace Region</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AC Knowles</li> </ul>	



Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

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