

# Common windgrass

*Apera spica-venti* L.

## Life cycle

Erect winter annual annual.

## Leaves

Leaves are rolled in the bud, smooth and very narrow. Leaf sheaths are hairless and smooth. Margins of ligules are continuous with the sheath.

## Ligule

Seedlings have a short, pointed membranous ligule that becomes somewhat torn, toothed or jagged with maturity.

## Stems

Erect, smooth, slender stems can be up to 1.5 feet tall. Produces several tillers.



Common windgrass in wheat.



Common windgrass seedlings.

## Flowers and fruit

The seedhead is a long, open panicle. Reddish-purple spikelets are compressed and one-seeded. Seeds are tipped with a prominent straight awn. Seeds are wind dispersed and often mature before crop harvest.

## Reproduction

Seeds.