

# Downy brome

*Bromus tectorum* L.



## Life cycle

Prostrate winter annual.

## Leaves

Both leaf surfaces and sheath are densely hairy. Leaves are rolled in the bud. Light green leaves have a distinctive twist and are soft to the touch.

## Ligule

Membranous with a fringe of hairs.

## Stems

Erect and clump-forming, up to 24 inches tall.

## Flowers and fruit

The seedhead is a soft, dense, purple-tinged, drooping panicle at maturity that produces large, yellowish brown seeds. Seeds also have characteristically long awns.



Downy brome plant.

## Reproduction

Seeds.



Downy brome in wheat.

## Similar weeds:

Cheat (*Bromus secalinus* L.)

Differs by having smooth or sparsely hairy leaves and shorter awns than those of downy brome.

Poaceae (Grass family)