

# Quackgrass

*Elymus repens* (L.) Gould



## Life cycle

Erect, rhizomatous perennial.

## Leaves

Leaves are rolled in the bud, hairless to sparsely hairy above and up to 8 inches long. Leaf sheaths are hairless except those near the base, which may be sparsely hairy. Clasping, clawlike auricles are present at the collar region.

## Ligule

Very short, membranous ligule.

## Stems

Erect and clump-forming, up to 4 feet tall. Plants spread by thin, yellowish to white, sharp-tipped rhizomes.



Patch of quackgrass.

## Flowers and fruit

The seedhead is a 2- to 10-inch-long, slender, unbranched spike made up of several alternating spikelets arranged edgewise on the stem. Each spikelet contains up to eight straw-colored, lance-shaped seeds. Each seed has a short to prominent awn.

## Reproduction

Seeds and rhizomes.



Quackgrass collar region.



Quackgrass seedhead.



Sharp-tipped rhizome of quackgrass.