

Teagasc & ISTA Jan 2023 - Know your Target Grass Weed



Sterile brome



Lesser canary grass



Annual Meadow grass



Italian Ryegrass



Wild oats

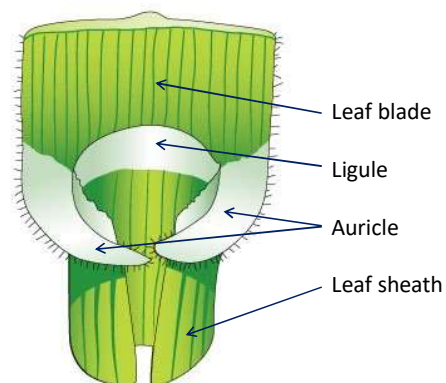


Black-grass

1

Identification: Auricles

- Membranous arms at the junction of the leaf sheath and blade
- Not always present
- Absent:
Most common grass weeds
- Present:
Scutch, Italian Ryegrass,
Perennial Ryegrass



2

Identification: Ligules

- A tiny transparent membrane between the leaf and the stem
- An important identifying feature
- Magnification needed at early growth stages



3

Identification: Colour

- Alone not very useful
- Can alter depending on growing conditions
- Used in conjunction with other identifying characteristics



4

Identification: Hairs

- Identification feature:
 - Leaf blade
 - Leaf margin
 - Leaf sheath
 - Stems
 - Auricles

Example: Brome



Blackgrass



5

Black-grass

Alopecurus Myosuroides

- No auricles
- Ligule: long, flat, serrated
- Characteristic clockwise twist in the leaves
- Leaves: fine, smooth, shiny, with a pronounced groove
- Stems: fine and sometimes reddish
- Lower leaf sheaths: often purple/reddish
- Spikelets: compact, up to 15cm long, green at flowering, turning purple as it ripens



6

