

Poa annua

[Synonyms : *Aira pumila*, *Catabrosa pumila*, *Eragrostis infirma*, *Festuca tenuiculmis*, *Megastachya infirma*, *Ochloa annua*, *Poa aestivalis*, *Poa algida*, *Poa annua* var. *annua*, *Poa annua* var. *aquatica*, *Poa annua* var. *eriolepis*, *Poa annua* forma *lanuginosa*, *Poa annua* forma *ovalis*, *Poa annua* forma *purpurea*, *Poa annua* var. *reptans*, *Poa annua* var. *rigidiuscula*, *Poa annua* var. *sericea*, *Poa annua* var. *triflora*, *Poa annua* var. *viridis*, *Poa bipollicaris*, *Poa falconeri*, *Poa hohenackeri*, *Poa infirma*, *Poa meyenii*, *Poa ovalis*, *Poa pratensis* var. *hohenackeri*, *Poa puberula*, *Poa royleana*]

ANNUAL MEADOWGRASS is an annual, biennial or perennial grass. Native to Europe it has often purplish- or reddish-tinged, green flower spikelets.

It is also known as Annual bluegrass, Annual poa, Annual speargrass, Bluegrass, *Cabelo de cão* (Portuguese), *Eenjarige Blougras* (Afrikaans), *Einjähriges Rispengras* (German), *Einjähres-Rispengras* (Austrian), *Enårig rapgræs* (Danish), *Espiguilla* (Spanish), *Espiguilla anual* (Spanish), *Fienarola annuale* (Italian), Goose grass, *Gramigna delle vie* (Italian), *Gwellt y gweunydd* (Welsh), *Gweunwellt Unflwydd* (Welsh), *Hèrbe à poules* (Channel Islander-Jersey Norman-French), *Hierba de punta* (Spanish), *Kylänurmikka* (Finnish), *Lipnice roční* (Czech), Low speargrass, Meadow grass, *Mellieg* (Maltese), *Mjatlik odnoletnij* (Russian), *Murunurmikas* (Estonian), *Nyári perje* (Hungarian), *Pâturin annuel* (French), *Poa anual* (Spanish), *Poa i etisia* (Greek), *Porotito de invierno* (Argentinian, Spanish), *Sisanit chad-shenatit* (Hebrew), Six weeks grass, *Spitzgras* (German), *Straatgras* (Dutch), *Suzume no katabira* (Japanese), *Tuintjesgras* (Dutch), *Tunrapp* (Norwegian), *Vitgröe* (Swedish), Walkgrass, *Wiechlina riczna* (Slovak), *Wiechlina roczna* (Polish), Winter grass, *Wyklina roczna* (Polish), *Yillik salkim otu* (Turkish), and *Zao shu he* (Chinese).

The flowers are pollinated by the wind.

In large areas of Canada and the United States the grass has been declared an invasive weed. *Annua* means ‘annual’.

South-eastern Asian authorities state that annual meadowgrass serves as an animal feed in that region.

It would seem that turf managers on golf courses however view this grass at best as better than no grass at all but more generally as nothing but a pest. It appears to have generated pages and pages of debate and advice on how best it should be handled. These arguments are not restricted to the golfing world (where apart from any other considerations like appearance and infestation, the pace of greens can be slowed by its presence) as most lawns harbour annual meadow grass too. Thus it must be the topic of conversation on occasion for experts on for instance grass tennis courts, bowling greens, croquet lawns, football pitches (from which apparently this grass is easily kicked out) and of course private and professional gardeners who take pride in an immaculate lawn.