

# *Elymus canadensis*

# Nodding Wild Rye

Canada Wild Rye

## Preferred Water Depth and Inundation Tolerance

Mesic species. Prefers moderately well to poorly drained soil. Minimal inundation tolerance.

## Wildlife Value

Provides habitat for small mammals. Vegetative parts are palatable to grazing species.

## Application/Zone

Fibrous, wide spreading root system can stabilize upper shoreline zones, streambanks, upland slope buffers, and vegetated swales. Also a good pioneer species.

## Availability, Establishment, and Maintenance

- Seed is widely available from commercial vendors.
- Seeding is recommended. Seed germination is better if seeds are stratified for one month at 32° F. Best germination of seed occurs if they are drilled into soil to a depth of 1-1.5 inches.
- Rangeland drill or hopper type seed broadcaster may be used to plant seeds. If broadcasting, seeds must be covered lightly with soil. Mixing seed with sand and other grass and forb species dispersed with a hand hopper or cyclone spreader facilitates establishment of prairie species in small areas.
- One source recommends planting at 0.5 to 1.0 lbs/acre because the species is too short-lived and expensive to plant at a heavier rate. A complete stand will result in two to three years if planted at this rate.
- Spreads quickly from seed but dies back after a few years.

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## Mature Height

3-6 feet

## Plant Type

Perennial grass

## Indicator Status

Facultative (-)

## pH

Wide range

## Nutrient Load Tolerance

Low

## Salt Tolerance

Not available

## Siltation Tolerance

Low

## Flowering Color and Time

Tan

July to October

## Light Preference

Partial to full sun

## Seeding Rate

.02 - 2 lbs/acre

