



A Conservation Plant Released by the Natural Resources Conservation Service
Los Lunas Plant Materials Center, Los Lunas, NM

'Redondo' Arizona fescue

Festuca arizonica Vasey



'Redondo' Arizona fescue (*Festuca arizonica*) Photo:
Steve Parr, Upper Colorado Environmental Plant Center

'Redondo' Arizona fescue (*Festuca arizonica* Vasey) was released in 1973 by the Los Lunas Plant Materials Center, Colorado State University, the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) and the New Mexico State University Agricultural Science Center.

Description

Redondo Arizona fescue is an native, cool-season, long-lived, bunchgrass. Culms are densely tufted in large bunches 12 inches to 40 inches tall. Leaves are numerous, usually elongate, scabrous, filiform and involute. Its ability to tolerate extended dry periods, especially in the spring months, allows this plant to occupy the shallow, often droughty soils in the intermountain regions of Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico.

Source

The original seed of Redondo Arizona fescue was collected from the ponderosa pine vegetation zone west of Los Alamos, New Mexico.

Conservation Uses

Redondo Arizona fescue has an extensive, tough, fibrous root system which makes it a valuable plant for soil stabilization. It also is a good source of forage for all classes of livestock.

Area of Adaptation and Use

Natural range of adaptation is from Colorado south to Texas and west to Nevada at elevations from 6,000 to 10,000 feet. It is found mainly in association with ponderosa pine on shallow clay-loam, sandy-loam, and gravelly soils. Redondo can tolerate extended dry periods.

Establishment and Management for Conservation Plantings

Redondo Arizona fescue is recommended for planting wherever Arizona fescue is adapted.

Ecological Considerations

There are no known threats from insects or diseases to Redondo Arizona fescue.

Seed and Plant Production

Propagation is by seed. The recommended seeding rate is 3 lbs/acre of pure live seed (PLS). Cultural practices for seed production are the same as for other cool-season grasses. Increased seed yields may be obtained by manipulating the applied amounts of supplemental water and fertilizer.

Availability

Breeder and foundation seed of Redondo Arizona fescue can be purchased from commercial growers.

For more information, contact: Los
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<https://www.plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov/nmpmc>

Citation

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For additional information about this and other plants, please contact your local USDA Service Center, NRCS field office, or Conservation District <<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>>, and visit the PLANTS Web site <<http://plants.usda.gov>> or the Plant Materials Program Web site <<http://www.plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov>>



This is a joint release among New Mexico State University's Los Lunas Agricultural Science Center, Colorado State University, the New Mexico Department of Transportation, and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Los Lunas Plant Materials Center.

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