Festuca rúbra L. Red Fescue

Culms usually loosely tufted, bent or decumbent at the reddish purplish base, occasionally closely tufted, erect to ascending, 40 to 100 cm. tall, lower sheaths brown, thin; blades smooth, soft, usually folded or involate panicle 3 to 20 cm. long; branches mostly erect or ascending; spikelets 4 to 6 flowered, pale green; often purple tinged.

Found in meadows, hills, bogs and marshes in the cooler parts of the northern regions, extending south in the coast ranges to the San Bernardino Mountains, in the Rocky Mountains to Colorado and New Mexico, San Francisco Mountains of Arizona; in the Allegheny Mountains and in the Atlantic Coastal marshes to Georgia; Mexico, Eurasia, North Africa, used in grass mixtures.

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