

# REED CANARY GRASS

*Phalaris arundinacea*



Mature Height	Up to 6 feet	Soil Type	Moist to wet
Mature Spread	Spreading	Flower Color	Green to Purple
Mature Form	Dense Grass Colony	Foliage Color	Green
Growth Rate	Rapid	Fall Color	Green
Sun Exposure	Prefers full sun		
Soil Moisture	Wet		

Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin

Reed Canary Grass has gone from being an acceptable forage or pasture grass in wet areas to being considered an invasive species. It spreads rapidly by seed but mostly by underground roots called rhizomes. And is especially rampant in wetlands where it out competes all native species. Invasion is associated with disturbances, such as ditch building, stream channeling sedimentation and intentional planting. Control is achieved by consecutive annual burns in the spring or fall, mowing in June and October to reduce seed production and encouraging native species or by frequent cultivation followed by seeding other crops. Chemical control in wetlands or drainage channels is achieved by using a glyphosate herbicide labeled for use around water.



This fact sheet was developed by the West Central Indiana Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) with funding by the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust. The CWMA consists of 27 western and central Indiana counties and strives to help land users identify and control invasive terrestrial plants through workshops, field days and other educational activities.

