

Spring Millet Fact Sheet

Milium vernale

Poaceae Family



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Joseph M. DiTomaso, University of California - Davis, Bugwood.org



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Distinguishing Features:

- ❶ **Flowers:** Open panicles are green to purplish, and up to 8 inches long
- ❷ **Seeds:** Smooth and glossy, oval, 1.7mm to 2.0mm long. Brown streaks give the appearance of wood grain. Spring millet spreads only by seed.
- ❸ **Leaves:** Flat, ¼ inches wide and 4 inches long.
- ❹ **Flowering Time:** Stems each produce one cluster of flowers in the spring.
- ❺ **Life cycle:** Winter annual grass that grows up to 2 ½ feet tall, with drooping, upright or spreading stems. Seed heads appear in May, and seeds mature in June.

Impacts:

- A pest of winter wheat, Spring millet usually travels with the grain and gets planted with the crop. Once established it infests surrounding pastures.
- Native to Eurasia, Spring millet was found infesting winter wheat and other crops in north-central Idaho. Although there have been no other reported occurrences in North America, the infestation in Idaho is spreading rapidly.

Control:

- Little information or research currently exists on the control of Spring millet.
- According to several Idaho noxious weed control guidelines, spring tillage may control this plant.
- Currently no herbicides are labeled for its control.
- There are no biological controls for Spring millet at this time.



Mary Welch-Keesey, 2016. Bloomingatacademyvillage.org

*Please visit our website for references sourcing this information.



Salt Lake County Weed
Control Program
www.slco.org/weeds/
385-468-4035
noxiousweeds@slco.org