Nome Germplasm glaucous bluegrass
*Poa glauca*
Selected Class Release “Natural”

**Uses:** Revegetation Throughout Alaska

**Background Information**

Glaucous bluegrass can be found on many types of soil: from slightly acidic to slightly basic; in very dry to slightly moist areas; and on gravel, sand, or organic matter.

It is a pioneer species, forming tussocks in disturbed areas. This provides a cover where willows and forbs can become established. (Aiker, et al., 1995).

*Poa glauca* grows to about 1 foot tall. It has a basal clump of bluish-green leaves from which arises the panicle of flowers and seeds. It is quite variable in its growth form.

**Distribution**

*Poa glauca* is found in Alaska on dry slopes and sandy places. It grows throughout most of mainland Alaska (Hulten, 1968). It is also circumpolar, being found in alpine or arctic regions.

Nome Germplasm glaucous bluegrass
Plant Identification Number: 9097739

Nome Germplasm glaucous bluegrass was collected near Nome, Alaska, by Stoney Wright in 1995 (Wright, 2006).

This native grass is a Selected Class Release by the Alaska Plant Materials Center (PMC). This means it has been grown and harvested at the PMC in Palmer, Alaska, and continues to preserve its excellent performance.

This grass is recommended for use in revegetation because its seedlings are vigorous and provide good initial plant cover.

Nome Germplasm glaucous bluegrass does best on dry soils.

Nome Germplasm glaucous bluegrass seed is maintained by the Alaska Plant Materials Center for commercial production.

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Alaska Plant Materials Center
Serving Alaska’s needs in production of Alaska native plants

July 17, 2007
Nome Germplasm glaucous bluegrass

Nome Germplasm glaucous bluegrass for
Alaska revegetation purposes and erosion control

Nome Germplasm glaucous bluegrass resembles ‘Tundra’ glaucous bluegrass, but can be grown throughout Alaska. The plants lodge less, produce more seed, and adapt well to most of the variable conditions found throughout Alaska.

Plant the seed in a shallow furrow along with a mixture of other plants for revegetation of disturbed areas. *Poa glauca* is not known to be allelopathic. Its tuft-like growth provides protected areas for natural vegetation to take hold.

Clean, weed-free, medium-textured soil creates the best field to produce Nome. The soil should be well-drained. Plant seed 1/4 inch deep in rows. Seedlings should emerge within 14 days.

Weeding the rows through the summer enables the seedlings to grow vigorously. Nome Germplasm is susceptible to snow mold. A fungicide may need to be used.

Seed is produced the second year of growth. Seed can be harvested and cleaned with normal farm equipment.

**To produce Nome Germplasm glaucous bluegrass**

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<th><strong>Poa glauca</strong> plant characteristics</th>
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(USDA, NRCS, 2005)

**Nome Germplasm glaucous bluegrass**

Nome Germplasm glaucous bluegrass is adapted for production in South Central Alaska.

**References**


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