

Rough Fescue

A Symbol of Alberta's Prairie Heritage

Designating a provincial grass recognizes that native grasses and grasslands are an important part of our heritage. Rough Fescue is an excellent choice for a symbol of prairie in Alberta.



Alberta has some of the largest areas of native prairie in North America and the world's largest area of Rough Fescue grassland.



For 10,000 years, Rough Fescue grasslands supported bison herds on which native peoples relied for survival. Today these same grasslands support our ranching communities.



Rough Fescue provides excellent forage for wildlife and livestock year round. An abundance of Rough Fescue indicates well-managed rangelands.



Native prairie is home to a large portion of Alberta's wild plants and animals, including several species considered at risk in Canada. Rough Fescue grasslands are recognized as meriting special conservation measures.



There is growing interest in using native prairie plants in reclaiming disturbed areas and in landscaping. Rough Fescue and dozens of other native grasses and flowering plants growing with it are not only well adapted to our prairie climate, but are also beautiful to behold.



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For more information about Alberta's native prairie, please visit the Prairie Conservation Forum website

www.albertapcf.ab.ca