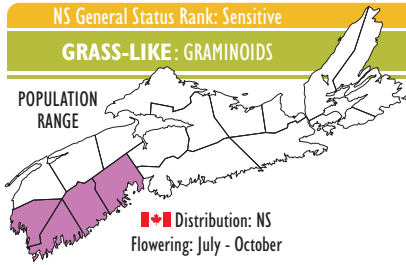


POPULATION RANGE



Flowering: July - October

Redtop Panic Grass

Panicum rigidulum var. *pubescens*



SIZE: 30-50 cm tall.

LEAVES: Long and slender, 2-4 mm wide (same width as leaf sheath) and up to 30 cm long. The leaf sheath (base of leaf that wraps around stem) is smooth and flattened at the bottom.

STEM: Erect and flattened at base.

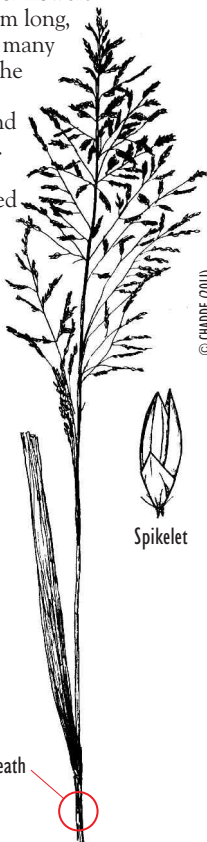
FLOWERS: Straight pyramid-shaped branched cluster of flowers (panicle), 10-20 cm long, and composed of many small spikelets.

The spikelets are 2-3.5 mm long and green or purplish.

FRUITS: Small dry grains enclosed in the spikelets.

NOTES:

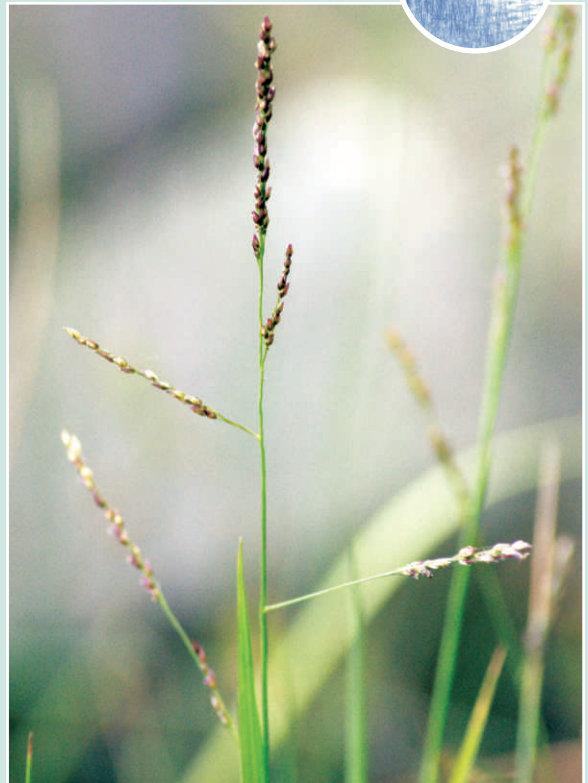
Formerly known as *Panicum longifolium*.



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Spikelet

Leaf sheath



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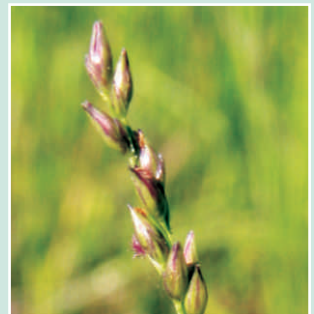


In front of a clipboard for contrast



Flat stem at base

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Spikelets

© MEGAN CROWLEY

Habitat:

Sand, peat, rock and gravel lakeshores.

Similar species: Eaton's Panic Grass (*Dichanthelium spretum*, page 67), Old Switch Panic Grass (*Panicum virgatum* var. *spissum*, page 79) and Spreading Panic Grass (*Panicum dichotomiflorum* var. *puritanorum*, page 77) all have a round stem at the base of the plant.

Interesting point: The name *rigidulum* refers to this species' straight and rigid flower panicle.