

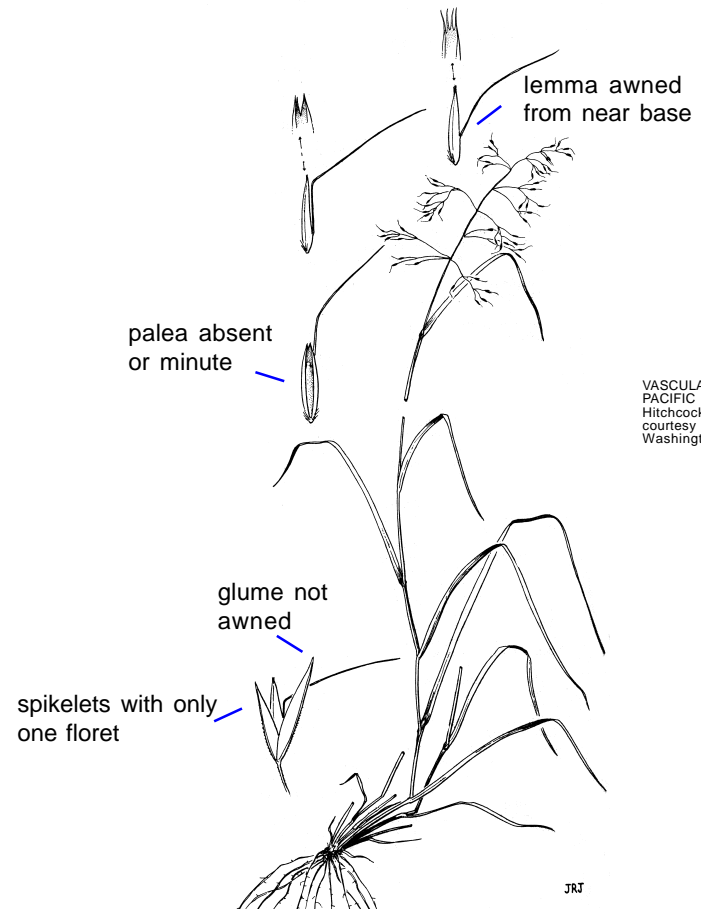
***Agrostis howellii***

Poaceae

Howell's bentgrass



Oregon Department of Agriculture



VASCULAR PLANTS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST (1969)  
Hitchcock & Cronquist,  
courtesy of University of  
Washington Press.

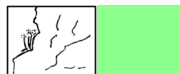
Tufted, perennial grass. **Stems** weak and drooping, (30)40-80 cm tall. **Leaves** drooping, soft, lower ones withering by anthesis, upper persisting; sheaths open to base, scabridulous; ligules (2)3-5 mm long, delicate, blunt to acute, erose, usually lacerate, scabrous; blades lax and soft, flat, 15-20(25) cm long, 3-5(6) mm wide; panicle open, 10-25(30) cm long, the branches spreading, spikelet-bearing mostly near ends of branches, the lower branches flexuous, 3-10 cm long. **Inflorescence** a panicle of spikelets. **Spikelets** with one floret; glumes persistent, acuminate, 2.3-3.5 mm long, unawned, veins almost smooth; lemma 2.5-3 mm long, with 4 teeth to 0.5 mm long, awned from near the base; awn geniculate, 4-6 mm long; callus hairs dense, to 0.3 mm long; palea absent or minute; rachilla not prolonged; anthers 1-1.3(2) mm long. **Seeds** 1.2-1.6 mm long.

**Lookalikes**

**differs from featured plant by**

- Agrostis* spp. .... other species do not have the combination of lemma with awn attached to near base, unawned glumes, absent or minute palea, and open inflorescence
- Calamagrostis howellii* ..... glumes ca. 6-7 mm long, lemma awn 8-12 mm long, callus with hairs (1)1.5-3 mm long, palea conspicuous
- Calamagrostis rubescens* ... rhizomatous, palea nearly as long as lemma, callus hairs ca. 1 mm long

best survey times  
J|F|M|A|M|J|J|A|S|O|N|D

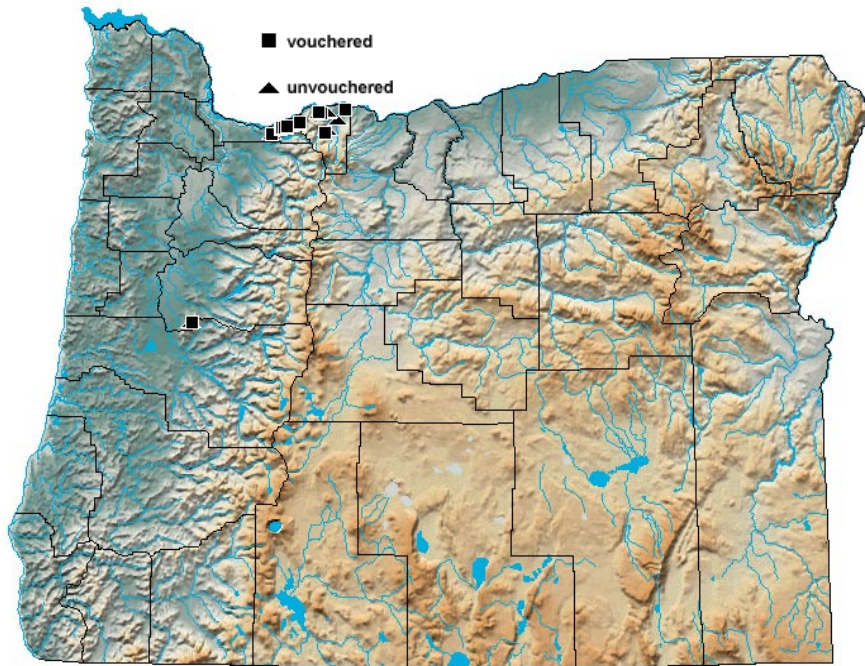


## *Agrostis howellii* Scribn.

Howell's bentgrass

PLANTS symbol: AGHO2

August 2019 status Oregon:C; ORBIC: List 1



**Distribution:** Endemic to western Oregon near the Columbia River Gorge and from one site in the Coburg Hills of Linn Co.

**Habitat:** Moist, shady cliffs, canyon walls and talus, often in waterfall spray zones. The Coburg Hills site is in a moist swale on a gently north-sloping bench, dominated by vine maple and Dewey's sedge with scattered Oregon ash, and surrounded by Douglas-fir forest.

**Elevation:** 50—500 m

**Best survey time**(in flower or fruit): July-September(early October)

### **Associated species:**

*Calamagrostis howellii* (cliff reedgrass)

*Festuca subulata* (nodding fescue)

*Tolmiea menziesii* (piggyback plant)

*Athyrium filix-femina* (lady fern)

**Notes:** This bentgrass species has the most restricted range of any species in the genus.



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