

Dactylis glomerata L. Perennial herb, rhizomatous, fibrous-rooted, several–many-stemmed at base, cespitose, erect to ascending, in range < 130 cm tall; shoots with basal leaves and several cauline leaves, ± glabrous, glaucous; rhizomes shallow, short. **Stems (culms):** cylindric, < 5 mm diameter; internodes hollow. **Leaves:** alternate distichous, simple with sheath; sheath closed to midpoint or above, compressed and keeled, glabrous (short-hairy), without lobes (auricles) at top; ligule membranous, obtuse, in range 4–9 mm long, translucent or brownish, jagged and typically splitting with age; blade linear, 140–500 × 4–8 mm, the widest near base, collar white, blade keeled and folded at base becoming flat approaching tip, minutely toothed on margins from base to tip, pointed at pale green tip, parallel-veined with midrib raised on lower surface, lower surface minutely toothed along keel above midpoint. **Inflorescence:** spikelets, in terminal paniclelike arrays, array ± 1-sided with only 1 lateral branch per node and branches alternate distichous, each branch with several ovoid, densely crowded spikelet clusters, spikelets subsessile to short-stalked, in range spikelet with 2–4 florets, bracteate, short-awned; axes straight below and sinusoid above, ridged, especially rachilla minutely toothed along edges reduced to short-ciliate. **Spikelet:** ovoid compressed side-to-side, ca. 6 mm long, breaking above glumes and between florets; **glumes** 2, subequal or unequal, broadly lanceolate, 3–6.5 mm long, keeled but asymmetrically (unevenly) folded, green with membranous margins becoming reddish and weakly veined or 1-veined and membranous, short-awned at tip, short-ciliate along keel but typically less so or short-scabrous on glumes (upper spikelets), sometimes short-ciliate on upper margin on the wider side of glume; **lemma** short-awned, lanceolate, 4–7 mm long, keeled, 5-veined, short-hairy on back, short-ciliate along keel and on margins approaching tip; **palea** < lemma, 2-keeled, 2-veined, short-ciliate along keels. **Flower:** bisexual or staminate (upper florets); **perianth (lodicules)** 2, bulbous at base, 2-lobed, 0.6–0.7 mm long, colorless, persistent beneath palea on developing fruit; **stamens** 3, free; filaments threadlike, 1.5–2 mm long, translucent, flattened; anthers exerted, dorsifixed, dithecal, linear, 2.5–3 mm long, light yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen light yellow; **pistil** 1 (absent in staminal flower), translucent-white; ovary superior, ovoid, < 1 mm long, 1-chambered with 1 ovule, glabrous; styles 2, spreading, ca. 4 mm long, papillate-hairy over most of its length. **Fruit:** achene (caryopsis), oblong to oblong-lanceoloid, 2.3–3 × 0.9–1.1 mm, brown, somewhat 3-angled with 1 side concave, glabrous; loosely covered by lemma and palea. Late May–mid-June.

Naturalized. Perennial herb known from a few isolated localities within range. *Dactylis glomerata* is fairly easy to identify because it has only one lateral branch per node from the main axis, one-sided clusters of spikelets, and strongly keeled, asymmetric glumes.

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