



Landscape Plant Identification

Cool Season Turfgrasses (5)

Some basic Turfgrass ID features:

- ◆ Blade – coarse or fine; one midvein or grooved
- ◆ Vernation – rolled or folded
- ◆ Ligules – hairy, membranous or absent
- ◆ Auricles – clasping, short or absent

Vernation

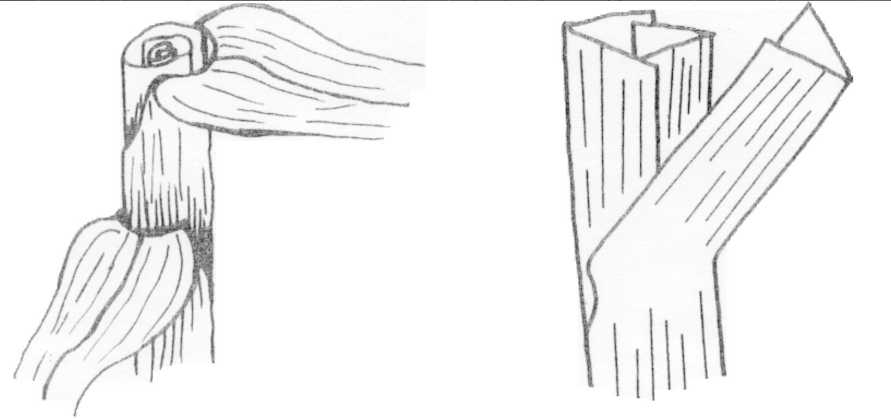
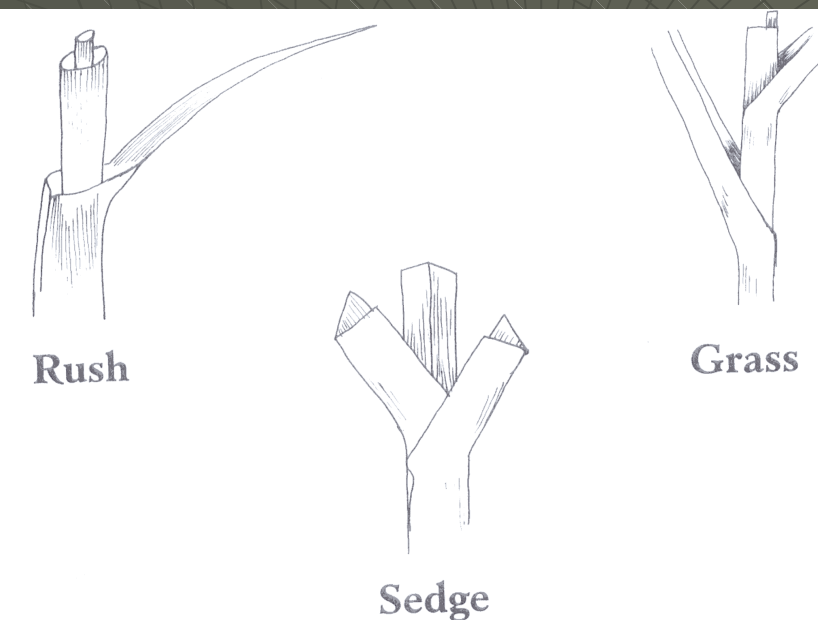


Figure 2.16. Rolled and folded vernations.



- ◆ Rolled or folded
- ◆ Grass – 2 ranked
- ◆ Sedge – 3 ranked
- ◆ Rush – round

Ligules

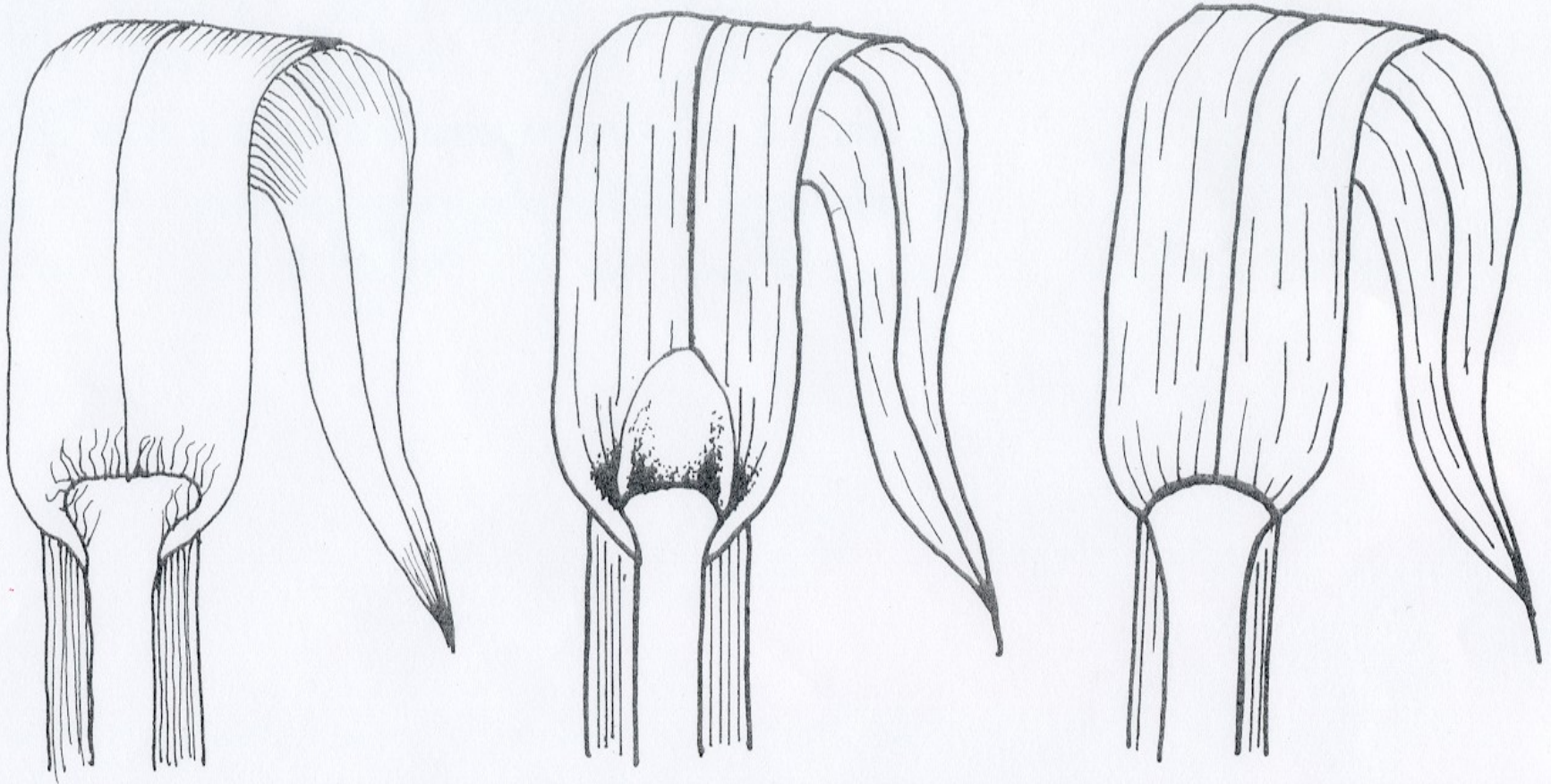


Figure 2.13. Hairy ligule, membranous ligule, and grass without a ligule.

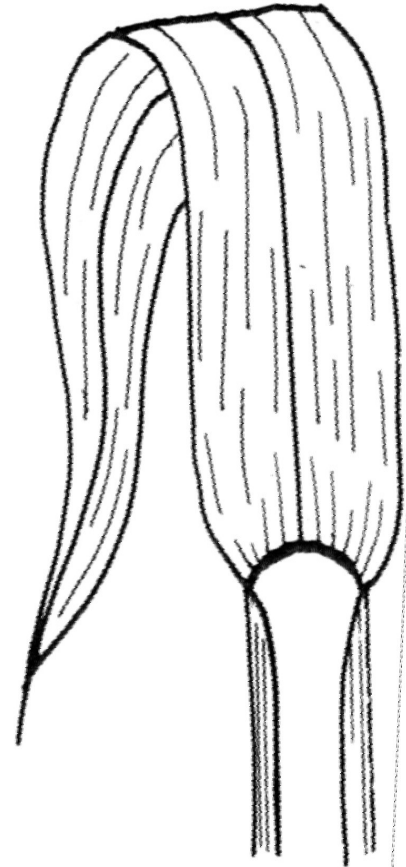
Auricles



Clasping



Short



Absent

Creeping Bentgrass - *Agrostis stolonifera*



- ◆ Blade: very fine; narrow; med green
- ◆ Vernation: rolled
- ◆ Ligule: long, membranous
- ◆ Auricle: absent
- ◆ Habit: stolons form dense mat
- ◆ ADV: low cut!
- ◆ FYI: putting green!

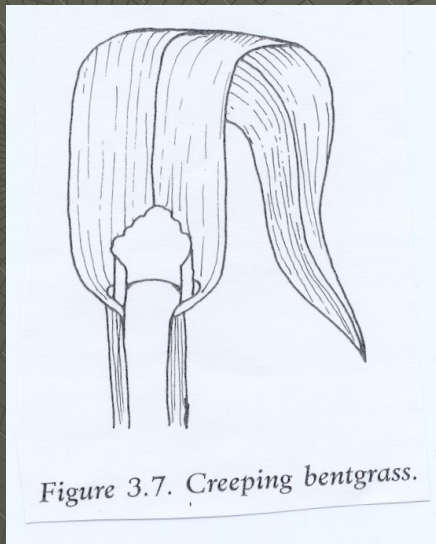


Figure 3.7. Creeping bentgrass.

Kentucky Bluegrass – *Poa pratensis*

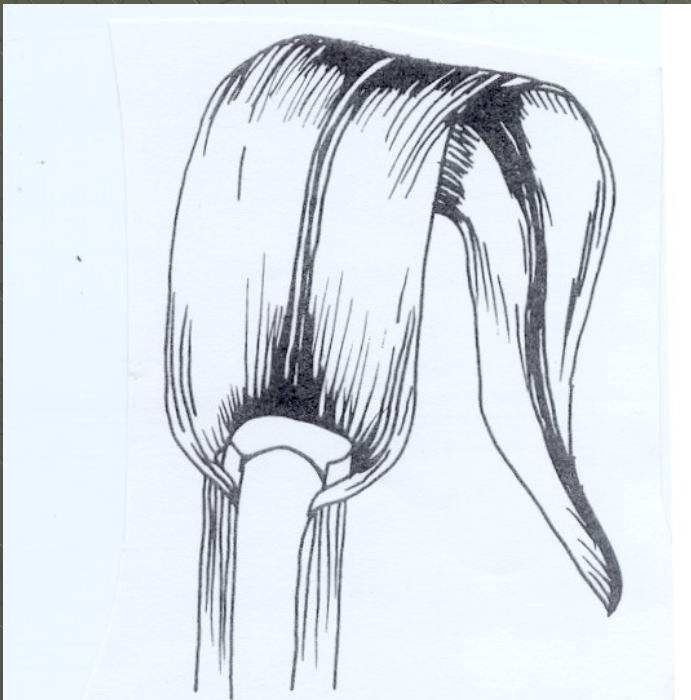
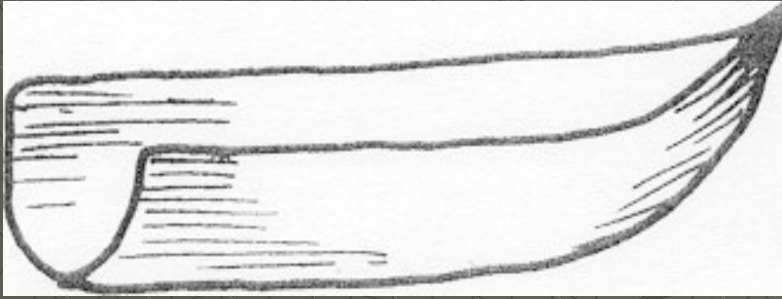


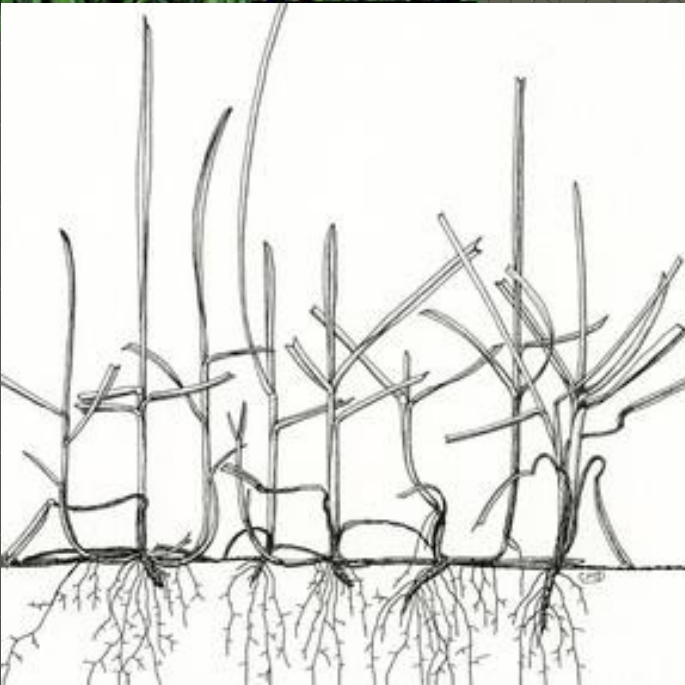
Figure 3.1. Kentucky bluegrass.

- ◆ Blade: midvein with boat shaped leaf tip, smooth and dk green top; leaf folds w/ water; ranks break at 45 degrees
- ◆ Vernation: folded
- ◆ Ligules: short, mem.
- ◆ Auricles: absent

Kentucky Bluegrass – con't



- ◆ Habit: rhizomatous growth
- ◆ ADV: fast recovery b/c of dense growth; dk green



Fine Fescue – *Festuca rubra*

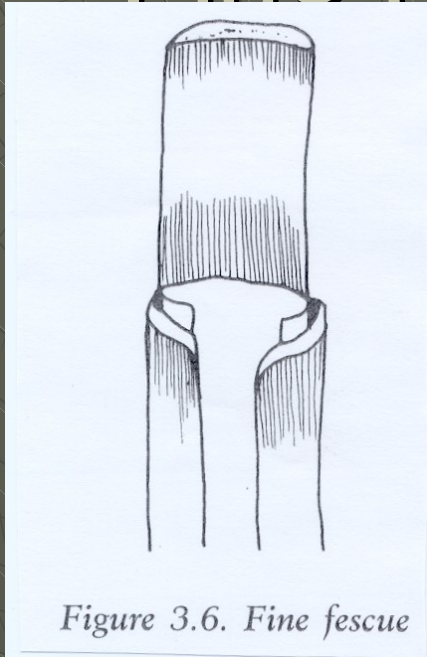
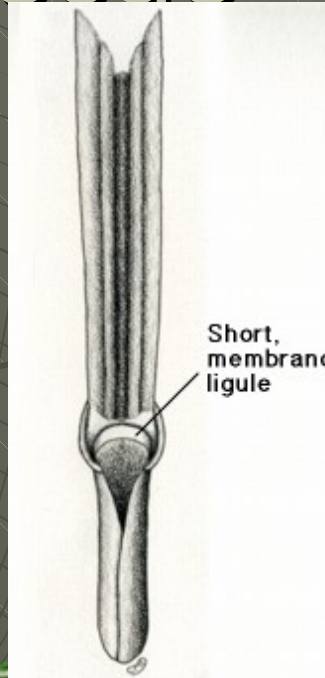


Figure 3.6. Fine fescue



Short, membranous ligule

- ◆ Blade: fine, dk green color
- ◆ Vernation: folded
- ◆ Ligule: short, memb.
- ◆ Auricle: absent
- ◆ Habit: rhizomatous, slow spreading
- ◆ ADV: plant in SHADE!!

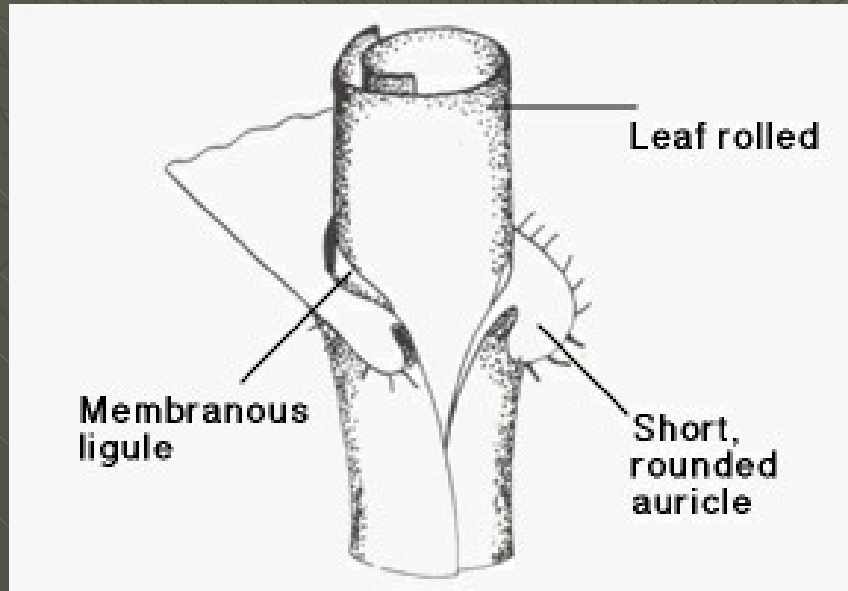


Creeping red fescue

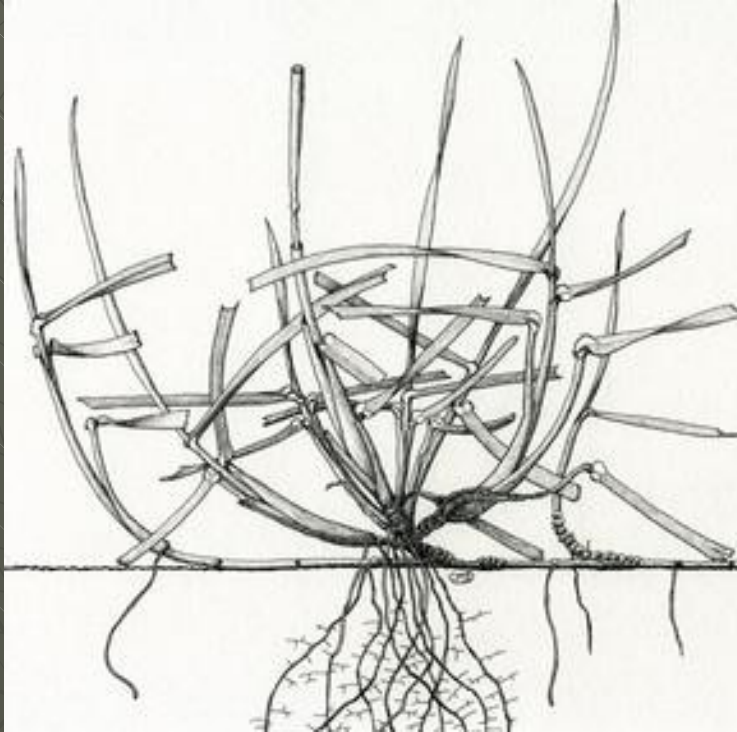
Tall Fescue – *Festuca arundinacea*



- ◆ Blade: **grooved**, med green, coarse; ranks break at 90 degrees
- ◆ Vernation: rolled
- ◆ Ligule: short, memb.
- ◆ Auricle: short, round

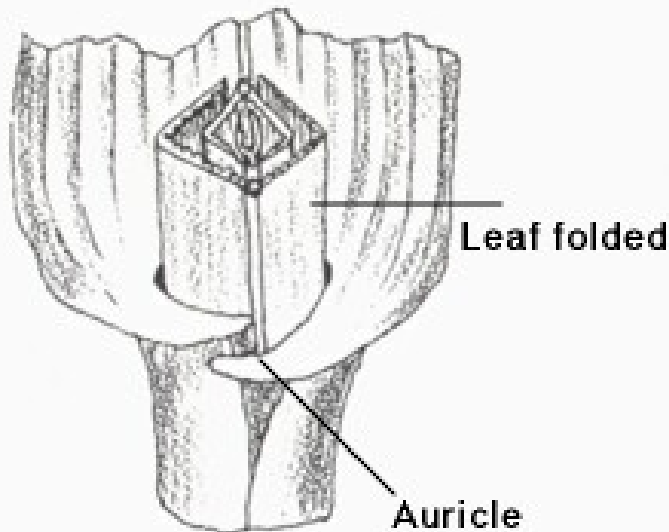


Tall Fescue – con't



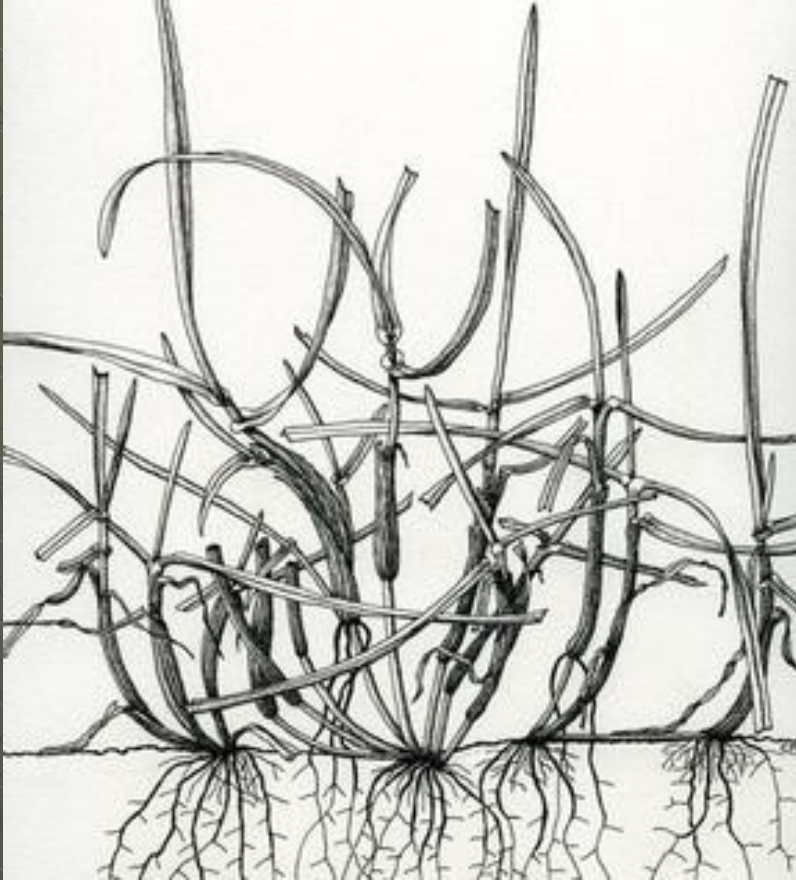
- ◆ Habit: bunch-type growth; spreads by tillers – often reseeded
- ◆ ADV: drought, heat, wear tolerant

Perennial Ryegrass – *Lolium perenne*



- ◆ Blade: shiny, dkst green w/ defined midvein and minute grooves; finer than KBG, coarser than CBG or FF
- ◆ Vernation: folded!
- ◆ Ligule: absent
- ◆ Auricle: slightly clasping

Perennial Ryegrass – con't



- ◆ Habit: bunch-type growth w/ tillers
- ◆ ADV: quickest TG to establish (3-5 d); dk green

Turfgrass Seed ID - keys

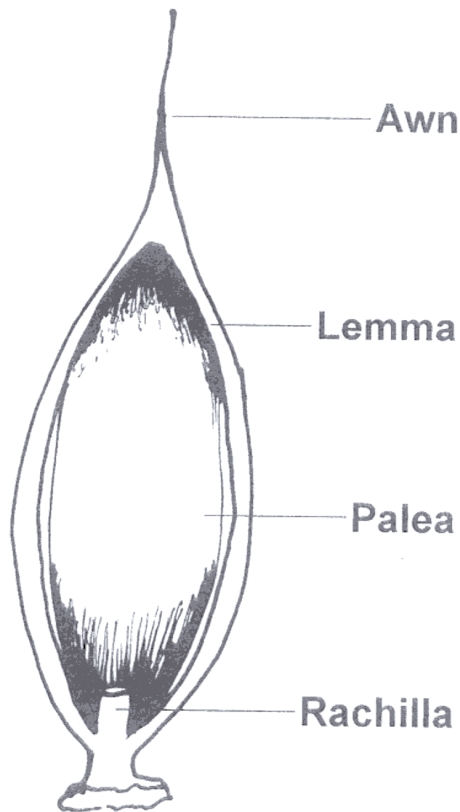


Figure 5.5. Diagram of grass seed.

◆ 1st – Size

- Smallest – CBG (pepper)
- Med – KBG (1/8")
- Large – TF and PRG (1/4 ")

◆ 2nd – Color

- ◆ Pale – Per. Ryegrass
- ◆ Greener – Tall Fescue

◆ 3rd – Seed Anatomy

- ◆ Awn – PRG or TF
- ◆ Rachilla – Tall Fescue (use golf tee)