

Holcus lanatus

Common velvetgrass, Yorkshire fog

Holcus lanatus L.

Family: Poaceae

Description: Perennial, 2 ft tall, covered with grayish velvety hairs. Sheaths 5 inches long, striate, grayish, velvety; ligule membranous with jagged edge. Leaves 8 inches long by 0.3 inches wide with prominent midrib. Inflorescences silvery to purple, numerous short branches. *Holcus*, Latin name for a long-awned grass⁽⁷⁰⁾; *lanatus*, wooly⁽⁵⁾.

Distribution: From Europe, widely naturalized. First collected in Hawai'i in 1909. Occurs in disturbed areas: pastures, shrubland, and roadsides at higher elevations, 2300–9800 ft, on Kaua'i, O'ahu, Moloka'i, Maui, and Hawai'i⁽⁷⁰⁾.

Environmental impact: Suppresses establishment of natives in higher-elevation mesic areas.

Management: Susceptible to foliar application of glyphosate at 1–1.5% product (Hank Oppenheimer, Maui Pine).

