## "B" Rated Weeds

A weed of economic importance which is regionally abundant, but may have limited distribution in some counties

**Johnsongrass** Sorghum halepense Other common names: Johnson grass

USDA symbol: SOHA

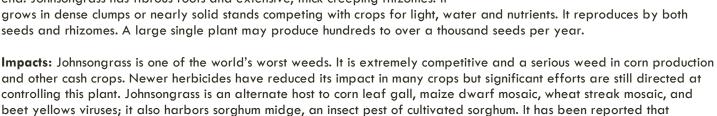




**Introduction:** Native to the Mediterranean region, johnsongrass was introduced into North America as a forage crop and for erosion control. It can be highly invasive in cultivated agriculture though new generation herbicides have offered excellent control.

**Distribution in Oregon:** Small populations are scattered throughout much of Oregon.

**Description:** Johnsongrass is a perennial grass that grows three to six feet tall. Leaf blades are flat with a prominent white midvein. The stems are solid with prominent, swollen nodes. Flowers or spikelets are in pairs at the lower end of the flowering stalk, and in threes at the upper end. Johnsongrass has fibrous roots and extensive, thick creeping rhizomes. It



livestock grazing on large amounts of young, stressed, or herbicide treated Johnsongrass are at risk of hydrogen cyanide

Biological controls: No approved biological control agents.



poisoning. The foliage can cause 'bloat' in such herbivores from accumulation of excessive nitrates.