



CUCAMONGA BROME

Bromus carinatus (*Bromus* from the Greek name for oats, *broma*, meaning food; *carinatus* means having a keel.)

Why it Was Chosen to Reseed Wildfire Burned Areas:

- Cucamonga brome is a fast establishing, annual grass that performs well on drastically disturbed areas and droughty soils.
- Early maturity and excellent seedling vigor provide initial erosion control cover.
- Like other grasses, its fibrous root system effectively stabilizes soils.
- This variety is native to southern California.

How Much to Use:

Where erosion control is critical, heavier seeding rates of 15 pounds per acre can be used. For a 10,000 square foot area, use 3.5 pounds.

On wildfire burn areas, a seeding rate of 10 pounds per acre gives an adequate erosion cover. For a 10,000 square foot area, use 2.3 pounds.

In seed mixes, the rate can be cut in half (5 pounds per acre) to reduce initial competition with other species. For a 10,000 square foot area, use 1.2 pounds.

Other Uses in California:

Cucamonga brome has been successfully used as a cover crop in orchards and vineyards, especially where an early maturing, reseeding annual is required.

Background:

This species was originally collected near Cucamonga, California, San Bernardino county in 1939 by the Soil Conservation Service. More recently, there has been a dispute about the scientific name of Cucamonga. It has recently been confirmed that it is *Bromus carinatus* and not *Bromus arizonicus* that has been suggested because of its annual nature.

Insights for Homeowners:

This is an annual plant that turns brown in the summer after it matures. It can be mowed to reduce the fire hazard and will reseed itself until other plants take over the site.

What it Looks Like



A fast, winter growing native grass that grows 20 inches or more with drooping leaves and seedheads.

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