



# RECREATION ALERT!

## Invasive Plant Watch

revised September 2003



False-brome (*Brachypodium sylvaticum*) is an invasive grass species that is rapidly expanding in the Pacific Northwest. One of the epicenters for false-brome is the McDonald-Dunn Research Forest, and people are unknowingly the major agents for seed dispersal.

Forest managers are actively working to reduce the spread of invasive species, but **WE NEED YOUR HELP.**

Visitors to the forest are urged to remove false-brome seeds from their clothing, footwear and bikes before leaving the forest. The **Three Sisters Wilderness, Cape Perpetua, the Metolious Headwaters, and the Rogue River** are just a few areas that have seen recent invasion of false-brome; most likely a result of seeds hitchhiking on unsuspecting recreationists like yourself!

### Identification

There are many species of grasses, however, none are as common in this forest as false-brome. Some characteristics that distinguish this grass from others is the yellowish-green color, drooping seed heads, and hairy leaf edges.



### Reason for Concern

False-brome can become the dominant plant and nearly eliminate native species on forest floors and in open prairies. The palatability of this grass for **wildlife** appears to be very low. It may inhibit tree seedling establishment and displace **endangered species**, such as Kincaid's lupine and the Fender's blue butterfly.

### Control

Control of false-brome should focus first on prevention of spread through cleaning of clothes and equipment, and removal of infestations along roadsides and trails. Seeds that fall on the trails & roads are easily picked up by boots and bike treads.



Please help the OSU Research Forest attain its goal of maintaining ecological integrity and sustainability of the forest and stream ecosystems by checking your clothes, shoes and bikes for weed seeds.

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**False-brome Working Group:** A partnership of: OSU College of Forestry, Institute for Applied Ecology, Starker Forests Inc., USDA Forest Service, USDI Bureau of Land Management, Oregon Department of Agriculture, US Army Corps of Engineers, The Nature Conservancy and Native Plant Society of Oregon